FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 OCTOBER 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked a "very large" maritime target south of Khark island on 15 October, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Flames and smoke were seen rising from the vessel.

Lebanon

Syria will be prepared to allow "thousands of Syrian volunteers" to join the Lebanese national resistance, which will continue as long as the Israelis remain in any part of Lebanon, chief of the Syrian General Staff General Hikmat al-Shihabi stated in remarks reported by Damascus television. Al-Shihabi, who was responding to a question about a possible Israeli withdrawal, added that Syria takes into account possible Israeli military action against the Syrian forces and is prepared for such an eventuality.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio disclosed that representatives of the IDF and the Lebanese Army may begin talks next week at UNIFIL headquarters on the military aspect of security arrangements in southern Lebanon. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has agreed to the talks, the radio said, and the UNIFIL commander will shortly discuss the matter with the Lebanese chief of staff in Beirut. Rabin has also told the Cabinet in Jerusalem that the Israeli defense establishment is ready to hold a debate on the IDF's deployment in Lebanon as early as 21 October, according to the radio. On Israel's withdrawal conditions, the Israeli ambassador to the United Nations stressed that Israel will object to stationing UN or Lebanese Army troops on the border, adding that the army of southern Lebanon should be given control of the border area, the radio noted. Army of southern Lebanon commander General Antoine Lahd believes that his forces will be able to take control over all of southern Lebanon within 6 to 9 months, according to the radio.

Syria-USSR

President Hafiz al-Asad began talks in the Kremlin with Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko, TASS announced on 16 October. Earlier, Damascus radio said Al-Asad's talks with the Soviet leaders would be "important," adding that the discussions would focus on the Middle East, including Lebanon, the international situation, bilateral relations, and ways to promote and expand cooperation. In a related commentary, the radio stressed the "great regional and international significance" of his visit, and noted Syria's desire to further develop and broaden cooperation with the Soviet Union "in all fields."

Radio Monte Carlo contended that Al-Asad's visit resulted from an "urgent request" by Syria, and cited a French official's view that Al-Asad will seek clarification from the Soviet leaders on their attitude toward Jordan and Egypt.

Israel

Inflation — The Consumer Price Index rose by 21.4 percent in September, the highest monthly increase since the establishment of the State of Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. "Dramatic and unique" measures are necessary to curb inflation, Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein stressed in remarks broadcast by the radio.

Egypt-Sudan

At the opening of the Nile Valley Parliament in Cairo, in speeches carried by Cairo radio, President Husni Mubarak and Sudanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri praised Jordan for taking steps to heal the Arab rift. Both leaders underlined the economic benefits from the Nile valley integration, and Numayri also declared that "those who feared the experiment" had attempted to undermine it through planting Red Sea mines, planning to attack the Aswan Dam, and supporting opposition activities.

PLO

The 17th session of the PNC must be held before the end of November due to "delicate circumstances" at the international, Arab, and Palestinian levels, according to a statement on the 13-14 October PLO meetings held in Tunis at the behest of Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The statement, published in Amman's *AL-RA'Y*, pointed out that attendance at the PNC session is a "national duty," and rejected any diversion from the "basic law which provides that the minority shall abide by the wish of the majority."

Saudi Arabia

Brazilian security authorities were informed of the disappearance in Rio de Janeiro of General Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Khalifah, an aide-de-camp to the Saudi military delegation to Brazil led by Defense Minister Prince Sultan, a spokesman for the delegation stated to SPA on 13 October. In an anonymous telephone call to a Brazilian newspaper, alleged kidnappers, who had claimed to belong to the Jewish Defense League, threatened to execute the general unless Brazil cancels the accord on manufacturing weapons for Saudi Arabia, an editor of the newspaper told Madrid EFE.

Maghreb

An official SDAR statement on a "great Maghreb offensive" begun on 13 October declared that four Moroccan positions had been stormed and that fierce battles were continuing, according to Algiers radio.

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Final Statement on Palestinian Meetings in Tunis

JN151147 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Oct 84 pp 1, 20

[By Lamis Andoni]

[Text] Tunis — The following is the full text of the final statement on the meetings that were held in Tunis on 13 and 14 October:

At the invitation of the brother chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, meetings took place in Tunis among independent and other members of the PNC, Palestinian functionaries, and representatives of Palestinian popular unions and organizations in various Palestinian assembly areas, on 13 and 14 October 1984. Consultations were held and opinions exchanged on holding the ordinary session of the PNC, especially in the present delicate phase of our Palestinian Arab people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of our people wherever they may exist.

After the meetings, the conferees made the following statement:

1. The delicate phase through which our cause is passing on the international, Arab, and Palestinian levels necessitate the convocation of the 17th session of the PNC before the end of November 1984 because the PNC is the sole legitimate institution for raising all issues affecting our people's march. The Palestine question has already suffered a great deal because these issues were tackled outside the PLO's legitimate institutions.

2. The conferees affirm the necessity of abiding by the Aden-Algiers agreement and regret the delay in holding the PNC session as scheduled in the agreement.

3. Proper preparation for the PNC session is essential in order to comprehensively assess the previous phase and to take a qualitative step that will push our national struggle forward and achieve the reforms desired by our people in light of past lessons and the circumstances and changes of the next phase. Attendance by PNC members is a national duty that should be prompted by their national affiliation and responsibilities and their concern for national unity.

4. The conferees affirm their adherence to the Palestinian National Charter and the basic law, and categorically reject every attempt, whatever its source, to prejudice the legitimacy or to turn away from the basic law, which provides that the minority shall abide by the wish of the majority and that the people's confidence shall be won through persuasion. They also emphasize the resolutions of the previous PNC sessions, especially those of the 16th session held in Algiers.

5. While full commitment to the pan-Arab battle against the Zionist enemy is acknowledged, no quarter whatsoever has the right to interfere in the PLO's internal affairs.

PLO Radio: Attempts To Eliminate PLO Will Fail

JN152018 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] All of us vividly remember U.S. President Reagan's call to the Arab states to withdraw their recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people following the withdrawal of the Palestinian forces from Beirut in 1982 after 88 days of heroic steadfastness in the face of the Israeli siege. We also vividly recall that no Arab official protested against the U.S. call. We said at that time that the lack of reaction or protest meant a positive response to the call. We also said that the implementation of the U.S. call, or to be more exact, the U.S. demand, would not be through direct means but only through violent means.

We did not wait too long to see who would start to implement the U.S. demand. When the Syrian regime took the first step, we were not surprised because we were well aware that he who retreated before the invading Zionist forces, exposed our backs to the enemy forces until the invaders reached and besieged Beirut, and left us to fight alone two thirds of the Zionist army while sitting in his capital in ignominious silence, must have been connected with the U.S.-planned Israeli invasion.

The Syrian guns abjectly failed to wipe out the PLO. Those who belittle the basic size and strength of the PLO always err because the PLO is not a military postiion which can be destroyed. It is not a number of individuals that can be liquidated. The PLO did not obtain its mandate as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people from Arab or international sides but from the Palestinian people, who gave it overwhelming support and who offered great sacrifices and martyrs. It reached this status because of its great achievements such as the national Palestinian identity. We would like to tell those who do not like these facts that the PLO is the representative of the Palestinian homeland; it is the Palestinian people themselves.

The holding of the PNC will not permit them to implement the U.S. demand of withdrawing their recognition of the PLO; in fact, it will not be possible for them to implement this demand. This insistence on preventing the convocation of the PNC is an attempt to destroy Palestinian legitimacy and create a weak alternative so that it may compete with it in representing the Palestinians in the coming Arab summit, if it is held. When there is competetion, the process of withdrawing recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people will become very simple.

Attempts at exploiting the Syrian regime's offensive against the PLO have already started. Some Arab political moves for a so-called comprehensive Middle East solution are becoming very active. These moves do not refer to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This is just a new response to the U.S. demand. Regardless of the formulas of the political projects of these moves, their basic aim is to eliminate the PLO in response to U.S. demands. However, we must affirm that what the Syrian guns could not do cannot be done by other means. The coming days will prove this.

Finally, we must assert that the Arab response to the U.S. demand is no more than a very tragic political suicide. Bartering the PLO for partial solutions and shaky agreements in order to ensure the stability of regimes in this or that Arab country will meet with abject failure and tragic ends. Al-Sadat's fall is a very clear example.

Fatah's Khalaf Calls for Arab-Egyptian Dialogue

NC160712 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Oct (MENA) — Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad], the number two man in the PLO, has stressed that the Arab situation is unbalanced due to Egypt's absence and that Egypt and the Arabs are indispensable to each other.

In a statement to *AL-AHRAM*, Abu Iyad called for holding a serious dialogue to guarantee Egypt's return to the leadership of the Arab nation in order to rectify the imbalance which has negatively affected all Arab issues. He said that the Arabs should not move away from Egypt, adding that they have been depending on its military strength since the rule of Muhammad 'Ali. He also emphasized that Egypt will not relinquish its sovereignty or strength.

Regarding the visit by Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO Executive Committee chairman, to Cairo at the end of last year, Abu Iyad stated that he was not against the visit but only objected to 'Arafat's decision to visit Cairo without consulting the Fatah Central Committee. He said that he differs from those who demand that Egypt move away from the Camp David agreements. He noted the importance of holding a dialogue with Egypt regardless of its agreements and treaties. He said we must get rid of our complexes ['uqaduna], be open toward Egypt, and leave it to the PNC to differentiate between our rejection of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty and restoring dialogue with Egypt.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon Reported

JN151737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men attacked a Zionist position on the coastal road south of Sidon in the occupied Lebanese south yesterday. The attack, which was mounted with machine guns and rockets, resulted in killing or wounding a number of Zionist personnel. Last night, the resistance men mounted a lightning attack on a Zionist military patrol that was passing near the Al-Zahrani area in southern Lebanon, using machine guns and rockets. A large Zionist military truck was completely destroyed and one military vehicle was damaged. The occupants of the truck and the vehicle were either killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two heroic operations but, as usual, declined to reveal his losses. The spokesman said that his forces immediately carried out large-scale arrest and search campaigns to apprehend the resistance men, but to no avail.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Secretary General on 27 November Summit

LD151237 Kuwait KUNA in English 1007 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 15 (KUNA) — The forthcoming GCC summit, to be held in Kuwait November 27th, will be a "self-reliance summit," GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah said Monday.

In a telephone interview from Riyadh with Kuwaiti daily *AL-QABAS*, Bisharah pointed out that defence requirements of GCC states will top the agenda of the summit, especially following the preparatory meeting of defence ministers held in Abha, Saudi Arabia, last September. "All member-state officials are fully convinced that self dependency," and protection of the Gulf region is the responsibility of the Gulf states, the GCC official pointed out, adding that there is also increasing comprehensive coordination in this field.

The official said that cooperation and economic matters will be among the issues to be discussed during the summit in addition to a number of recommendations to be presented to heads of the GCC states in this field. Bishara voiced hope that the Gulf common market project will be implemented by the early 1990's. The summit will deal with the Iraqi-Iranian war, Arab present situation, the Palestinian cause and international issues in addition to political matters, he concluded.

Ministers' Session Postponed

LD151910 Kuwait KUNA in English 1646 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 15 (KUNA) — A meeting of GCC finance and economy ministers scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed until November 6, the Council's secretariat announced Monday. The announcement said the delay was called for by Qatar's Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani. The meeting will now be the last of the series of ministerial gatherings in preparation for the six-state Council's summit scheduled for Kuwait at the end of November. The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

OMAN

British Defense Official Arrives for Talks

GF151549 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Muscat, 15 Oct (WAKH) — Fahar ibn Taymur, Omani deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, today met in Muscat with John Paul Stanley, British minister of state for defense procurement, who is currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations and defense issues.

SAUDI ARABIA

SPA on Disappearance of Military Delegate in Brazil

LD160905 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1811 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Oct (SPA) — To clarify what was reported by news agencies this morning regarding the absence of one of the aides-de-camp of the Saudi delegation in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro, a member of the media delegation accompanying His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz stated that 'Abdallah Khalifah, previously an employee of the Saudi Armed Forces [as heard] and one of the unofficial aides-de-camp, left the hotel at 1830 Thursday evening, 11 October, for a walk near the hotel and did not return. This forced the delegation accompnying his royal highness to inform the Brazilian security authorities of his absence. They are still searching for him.

Chief of Staff Visits Joint Exercises Site

GF151624 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Chief of Staff First Lieutenant General Muhammad al-Hammad today arrived at the camp airport of the Peninsula Shield II maneuvers. He made an inspection tour of the participating air defense patrol, and boarded a helicopter for an aerial tour of the participating fraternal forces. He then attended the full approbation ceremony on the progress of the maneuvers, which was presented by the supervisor of the maneuvers, the commander of the maneuvers, officers, staff, and the heads of the executive committees. Al-Hammad visited the camps of the fraternal countries' armies which are participating in the maneuvers. He also visited the field hospital, and concluded his tour by visiting King Khalid Military City.

Riyadh: U.S. Will Not Deny Aid to Israel

LD131051 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Commentary by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Excerpts] The United States has agreed to provide Israel with urgent aid to the value of $1.2 billion to face the deteriorating economic situation in the Zionist entity.

Regardless of what has been said to the effect that the urgent aid to the Israeli enemy is an advance payment on next year's aid — and this does not mean that the U.S. Administration approves of the economic measures being taken by the enemy government to combat the deteriorating economic situation -- observers exclude the possibility of the U.S. Administration rejecting urgent Israeli demands because what has been provided will only help to reduce the difficulties in the short term.

Increased government spending, especially in the military sector, has led to an acute deterioration in the budget because at present the enemy spends nearly $1 million per day on its forces in Lebanon. This is one of the pressures that the enemy is trying to remove through its hesitant desire to withdraw. This is in addition

to the painful blows inflicted by the national Lebanese resistance which has turned the soil of the south into a burning fire consuming enemy soldiers and forcing th enemy to review its plans to withdraw as soon as possible.

In the shadow of this economic crisis, observers view as impossible that the urgent American financial aid will rid Israel of its difficulties, a matter which has prompted the enemy prime minister, Shim'on Peres, to ask President Reagan for a further $750 million in additional aid. However, Peres denies that he asked for aid and claims he is confident that American Jews will pay additional sums to save the economy of a country described by observers as a den of snakes.

Therefore, the American Administration's rigidity toward the Israeli demands, which have reached the level of blackmail, has its justification when applied toward a country which tries to spend from others' pocket. However, observers say this American rigidity will not reach the point of abandoning aid for Israel for various reasons.

BRIEFS

Envoy to Philippines — Manila, Oct 11, SPA — The new Saudi Ambassador to Philippines Fu'ad Hasan Faqi has presented his credentials to President Ferdinand Marcos. [Text] *[Riyadh SPA in English 1212 GMT 11 Oct 84 LD]*

UAE

Somali President Arrives 15 Oct for 2-Day Visit

GF151821 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1755 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre arrived in the country at 1615 [1315 GMT] today on a 2-day official visit to the UAE. UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan was at the headed the delegation of those who received the Somali president on his arrival.

Tehran: President Supports UN Ouster of Israel

LD151803 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] In reply to a message by President Khamene'i regarding the expulsion from the UN of the regime occupying Jerusalem, Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, sent a message to President Khamene'i, via the special representative of our country's president. The message reads:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Your excellency, Mr President, dear brother, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the honorable president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Your excellency, I received your message regarding unifying the efforts of the Islamic ummah in the struggle against the aggressor Zionist regime, which has occupied the holiest of our holy places, the first Mecca and the second shrine and violated its sanctity; has made the Muslim people of Palestine homeless and threatened the security and stability of the Arab and Islamic peoples.

Your Excellency, Mr President, as you know, Israel's continued acts of aggression, which are supported by apostates, are overt acts of aggression against the Islamic ummah. Owing to the differences, lack of unity and clashes among Islamic ummah, they do not have the strength to withstand these aggressions. The fight between Israel and Islam is a fight between right and wrong. In the holy Koran, God Almighty has commanded: And turn towards piety and righteousness and do not turn towards sin and enmity. And if you assist God, God will assist you and make your steps firm. That is what we need today; that is, there should be more friendship, unity and peace among our Islamic peoples. We should all gather under the banner of Islam and propagate the word of God, for God has promised us total victory.

I have complete confidence in your wisdom and intelligence that you will successfully perform your historic role in solving differences and playing a part in the realization of unity among Islamic peoples and shedding hatred, enmity and differences.

We ask God to assist us in attaining this goal. Our enemy knows that his doom lies in our unity, and that our cooperation would bring an end to his injustices. That is why he tries to create a rift among Muslims. Of course, this is not new; for the past 14 centuries, since God sent his messenger -- peace and God's mercy be upon him and his clan -- our enemies have constantly continued their aggressions and caused trouble. No doubt, we shall support any attempts at the UN which are aimed at exposing the Fascist, Zionist regime, which is against humanitarian principles. We support any Islamic plan for attaining this goal.

[Signed] Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE.

AL-ITTAHAD Criticizes U.S. West Bank Policy

GF151608 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 13 Oct 84 p 7

["With the Events" column by *AL-ITTIHAD* editor]

[Text] The president of Bi'r Zayt University, in the occupied West Bank, has revealed that official U.S. efforts were made to appease Palestinian personalities in the occupied land before the announcement of this year's military and economic aid to Israel.

It appears from the U.S. response that Washington did not wish to contradict outright the university president. It would have done so if it had been able. All that the U.S. State Department official said was that he had "learned" that Washington had recently redoubled its efforts, through its consulate in Jerusalem, to lessen the tension between Israelis and Palestinians.

It also appears that the U.S. "envoys," whether coming from outside or from within the consulate, have been coolly received by West Bank mayors, the university president stated. It can even be said the envoys received an unexpected shock when the mayors rejected all U.S. assurances and promises. Otherwise, they would have filled the world with resounding statements on the success

of their efforts in persuading the Arabs to accept "forthcoming" economic aid.

It is really regrettable that this unsuccessful, childish attempt should come at a time when Washington was sure — through scores, indeed, hundreds of events — of the rejection by the entire West Bank of the U.S.-Israeli alliance, an alliance that has lately taken on flagrant and excessive forms, such as the strategic cooperation agreement, privileges of free trade, and the "feat" of regarding all military and economic aid to Israel as outright grants.

How then can we explain these peculiar efforts, except as stupid behavior intended for deception, and a foolish attempt to absorb Arab resentment regarding the visits of Peres and Shamir to Washington? Indeed, our regret reaches its peak when the U.S. State Department official, in his reply to the statements of the university president, disregarded the basic problem and dealt with marginal matters. He made no mention at all of his expectations that the region will experience, within the next few months, a wave of violence, sabotage and bloodbaths, caused by the rising anger against the U.S. policy toward Israel. The U.S. official made no comment on this, thus revealing the true nature of the indifferent position of both the United States and Israel regarding just Arab demands. Perhaps he also reveals the depth of the U.S. policy on Israel, which aims at drowning the region in a swamp of chaos and destruction.

PDRY

Chairman Holds Talks With PFLP's George Habash

GF151430 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] A work meeting was held today between Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and George Habash, PFLP secretary general. During the meeting they reviewed a number of issues related to the situation in the Arab arena, the Palestinian issue, and the international situation.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad first welcomed Brother George Habash. He affirmed YSP pride in the struggle relations which link both the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions, the PFLP, and the struggling role of George Habash within this framework. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed that the distinguished struggle relations between the Yemeni and the Palestinian revolutions will continue to serve the goals of both the Yemeni and Palestinian people. In this regard, brother secretary general affirmed that the PDRY will always stand with the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people for regaining their homeland, for self-determination, and for establishing an independent state. Brother secretary general said that the Palestinian revolution, supported by the unity of its national and progressive forces, will overcome the current crisis, maintain its unity, develop its methods for the continuous armed struggle, and enhance its revolutionary alliance with Syria, the Lebanese national movement, and with the group of Arab liberation factions.

George Habash expressed his personal pride and the pride of the PFLP for the struggling morals of the PDRY people, their struggle for attaining the victory of the aims of the 14 October glorious revolution, and for achieving progressive changes in the country. He said that the success and the great achievements attained by the country's workers under the leadership of the YSP is admired by all progressive Arabs. He praised the role of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the YSP leadership in supporting the Palestinian struggle for preserving the PLO unity on the basis of its gradual program. He praised the decisions of the PNC session, including the decisions of the 16th PNC session which convened in Algiers recently. Brother George Habash affirmed that the difficulties and obstacles facing the Palestinian revolution will not continue, and will not stop the Palestinian people from continuing the struggle. During the meeting, they also discussed a number of issues which concern the joint struggle of the two revolutions.

Presidents Address Nile Valley Parliament

Sudan's Numayri Delivers Speech

NC151139 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0934 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Speech delivered by Sudanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri at the opening of the second session of the Nile Valley Parliament in Cairo — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Almighty God said in his revelation: Praise be to God, who created out of nothing the heavens and the earth, who made the angels messengers with wings — two, or three, or four pairs.

He adds to creation as He pleases; for God has power over all things. What God out of His mercy doth bestow on mankind there is none can withhold. What He doth withhold, there is none can grant, apart from Him. He is the exalted in power, full of wisdom. Men! Call to mind the grace of God unto you! Is there a creator, other than God, to give you sustenance from heaven or earth? There is no God but He. How then are ye deluded away from the truth? [verse from the Koran]

Your Excellency Brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, most distinguished wife of our brother president, brother members of the Nile Valley Parliament; may God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. My most sincere heartfelt congratulations to you on this august meeting. Brothers, you have agreed on welfare, on assistance, on sincerity, and on loyalty. You have taken the path of good sense and righteousness. You have been guided by the saying of Almighty God and say: Work righteousness. Soon will God observe your work, and His apostle, and the believers. [Verse from the Koran]

Greetings to this great assembly. What was accomplished in 1 month was, by all criteria, one of the greatest and most cherished achievements of our Arab nation. It was the month of the great crossing [of the Suez Canal in the October 1973 war] and of the immortal victory — the day when the heroic Egyptian fighter restored our nation's dignity and prestige before regaining fraternal Egypt's dignity and prestige [applause] and the day when he crossed over the long-lasting barrier of illusion and the long wall of sadness and restored our lost loftiness on the land of Sinai which was under occupation and resisting the colonizer and the oppression of the enemies.

Through you, brothers, I extend greetings to our valiant Armed Forces in the great valley of the Nile [applause] whose sons' blood flowed on the pure land of Sinai as fuel for a long-awaited victory. We attained this victory on the glorious day of the crossing, the day when we surmounted self-defeat, dejection, and the downfall of the flag, and thus affirmed to the whole world the sublimity of our dignity, our genuineness, and the loftiness of our banner.

Through you, brothers, I send greetings to the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan [applause] and to His Majesty brother King Husayn ibn Talal who has always believed that when Egypt crossed the dam of defeat, it did so in redemption of its brothers before its people, in defense of its kinfolk before its people. Egypt is but a brother, even if some fabricate (?division); Egypt is but a brother, however long division lasts and however much time passes.

The heart beat with joy and pride when Jordan led the process of return. Brothers, all the efforts that we exerted throughout the past year to mend the Arab rift have been crowned with success. The time of division existed far too long. In the absence of Arab accord, dear and pure blood flowed on the land of wounded Lebanon. On the hills of the West Bank, settlements are being built by usurpers who pretend to uphold peace. We are aware, as is the whole world, that these usurpers' characters cannot change. They become more arrogant if we willingly (?fail) to achieve solidarity.

Dear brothers, Arab solidarity was robbed of its very meaning as an inevitable result of the policies based on whims, interests, and temporary narrow alliances. Some people wanted to manipulate the destiny of all the Arab people to amass blood-stained wealth and to acquire short-lived power, established on the skulls of martyrs. Enjoying this manipulation, these people went too far, uninhibited by reason and unthwarted by advice or exhortation. They kept tearing the Arab nation apart like agents do. They kept opposing every attempt to achieve solidarity and cohesion like enemies sworn to destroy and break up the Arab world.

Dear brothers, we are wondering what they are after and what kind of venom they have in their hearts. We are wondering why the PLO was torn apart by compatriots rather than foes. Dear brothers, we are amazed to see the call for struggle turned upside down, so that fighting is taking place for no cause, brothers are fighting each other, and compatriot blood is wasted.

Dear brothers, we are amazed to see alliances being made with enemies to confront brothers and friends, to see wrong turned into right and false claims made in the name of Arabism and religion. Seeking division, exploiting youth, and resorting to guns — rather than dialogue — as the final arbitrator are all very astonishing.

For years, dear brothers, we have been tirelessly saying that solidarity is the solution, that agreement is the key, and that victory and liberation can only be achieved by reaching a common stand. Jordan responded to our plea in this respect out of its belief that the national cause is not to be left for maneuvers and that the liberation of the land is the supreme goal.

Here is Jordan, today restoring its relations with sisterly Egypt and transcending the venom and conspiracy of the ill-wishers. It has joined, firmly and of its own accord, the march of truth and cohesion. God willing, Jordan's example will be followed by the rest of the brothers who came to understand that Egypt without the Arab world is an effort lacking support and that the Arab world without Egypt is an entity shorn of power. [applause] Being one people, we need harmony and understanding to enhance our power.

Your Excellency brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, the honorable Mrs Mubarak, brother members of the Nile Valley Parliament; I started this speech by commenting on Arab issues and, in so doing, I took pride in the Nile Valley Parliament. This parliament stands in contrast to what others are

doing. We are achieving integration while they are disintegrating. We are getting closer as they are drifting apart. We are coordinating to face any danger not only in the Nile Valley but across the Arab world.

Our second session of the Nile Valley parliament speaks for the authenticity of our approach and the solidity of our March. We are overcoming long-existing obstacles and bringing back to life the times of unity and purification. This meeting was delayed because of some extenuating circumstances, like Egypt's People's Assembly elections and the developments in our region that called for our attention and efforts. This does not mean that the drive has weakened. On the contrary, this time was well spent by the executive organs to study matters in depth, to prepare bills, and to follow up previous issues. It was a time of hard work and perseverence.

There have been continuous consultations and scheduled visits between my brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and myself, where we sought to promote those things that you have unanimously decided upon and where we directed all the departments to follow up your actions and bring about your aspirations.

Brothers, there have been continuous and uninterrupted meetings of the technical committees stemming from your honorable parliament. We meet in Cairo at times and in Khartoum at times following up the implementation of and recommendations for resolutions. We set up study teams and other groups to make revisions. The period between the two sessions has been fruitful and good. You will inevitably observe the product of the efforts in our various reports. You will also ascertain the harvest of the efforts made. This great yield has established the seriousness of the course of your parliament.

We take this opportunity to convey to you warm and sincere congratulations for the great and glorious achievement made by your honorable parliament in being accepted as an IPU observer member. This is a great achievement by any standard. The IPU is a world forum of high standing, position, value, and influence. The significance of this achievement is clear evidence of the international parliaments' recognition of this newsly created parliament. It is also a recognition by these institutions of the integration experiment between Sudan and Egypt as a model that can be followed not only at the regional level but also at the world level.

Your Excellency brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Mrs Mubarak, brothers members of the Nile Valley Parliament; the integration at the international, regional, and local levels has achieved effective results which extended beyond the Nile valley border. Those who feared the experiment and its result began planning to undermine the march and foil our efforts. They planted mines in the east, in the Red Sea; although this had a limited effect on international navigation and did not achieve their objectives. Its direct effect was aimed at transfering the danger to our border to hinder our march and to undermine our efforts. In the west, they set up subterranean water pumps along the joint valley border in an abortive attempt to realize an old dream. However, by the will of God, our pure climate will dissipate their dreams. In the south, the sought to attack the symbol of glory and dignity — the high dam — which we built with our blood and sweat and by the bodies of the sons of the valley with rocks and sand. They had trained some persons to destroy this. They failed to realize that a bastion built by men cannot be destroyed by children's actions [applause] and cannot be affected by adolescents' misdemeanors. In the south of the valley, they sought to tamper with the homeland's unity. They flooded us with weapons and mercenaries and paid money. They failed to realize that the homeland's unity cannot be affected by the hatred of he who has no homeland and that the unity of the ranks cannot be split by he who has no entity [as heard] even if he massed troops from others' homelands or sought the help of the devil. Their efforts were like fire in the sea and an attack against windmills from which they will only yield repentance and harvest only dust.

Brothers, I am confident that the great Nile valley was subjected to this only because it sought to achieve integration as an entry to unity. It sought this sublime goal and abstained from seeking personal objectives and interests. It succeeded where others failed and became stable while others are still rearching and digging [for stability].

Your Excellency brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, most distinguished lady, wife of brother the president, brother members of the Nile Valley Parliament; you have felt the dimensions of the danger to which the great Nile valley is being exposed. You have experienced the sequence of plots and the treachery and treason of those who are perhaps closer to me than my jugular vein. For this reason, the required awareness and efforts must go beyond the lo' s of this parliament to the reality of man throughout the valley.

Thanks be to God, we have moved — or are about to move — from the phase of planning and study to the phase of application and implementation. Bills have been completed, legislation has been approved, and decisions have been made. Therefore, work must proceed as vigorously as the immortal Nile river — persistent work with sweat and fruitful efforts irrigated with our blood without fear or hesitation; Achievements must be experienced by the citizen; projects must bring prosperity as a result of our efforts; abundant production must bring surplus for others, sufficiency in everything we want, and exports to whoever needs them. The participation of all public and private sectors, without exception, in the economy, agriculture, industry, and trade is a role that still has wide opportunities for contributing, with work and effort, production and sweat, to the completion of the edifice — made up of the government and people — as a public and private canopy under which our hands in the north and the south will join in an effort to be added to the efforts of our nation. Sincere intentions can achieve the impossible, and determination can move mountains. Our intention is sincere and our will has united. God willing, we shall triumph. We hope that during this and the next session we will, God willing, reap the fruits of the integration projects — abundant wealth throughout the valley felt by the citizens of the Nile valley to which they will contribute their efforts so as to achieve growth, welfare, and justice for mankind throughout the world.

Your Excellency brother president, most distinguished lady wife of the brother president, brother members of the Nile Valley Parliament; before I conclude my speech, I must express, on

behalf of all of you, sincere fraternal and heartfelt congratulations to my brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the third anniversary of his presidency in fraternal Egypt [applause] during which we participated in and experienced, in this historic hall throughout its fruitfull years, the birth of the integration charter as well as his assumption of the responsibilities of the presidency. God willing, this hall shall witness the beginning of a new surge in Egyptian-Sudanese integration with more production and progress. This hall shall testify to the fact that we never wavered, weakened, or have been neglectful. Our efforts combined and our aims united to fullfil the hopes of our two peoples in the Nile valley. This hall shall, God willing, witness future days proceeding with the same pattern and advancing with the same steps on the path leading to a united state having one flag, one army, and one people. [applause and cheers]

Thank you. In conclusion, let me join you in cheering: Long live the great Nile valley; long live the common aim and fate; and long live our united will. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. [applause]

Husni Mubarak Addresses Parliament

NC151330 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1010 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at the opening of the second session of the Nile Valley Parliament in Cairo — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful; dear brother President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, ladies and gentlemen; the one people of the Nile valley in the north and in the south have taken a great stride along the road to integration and unity. They achieved this by establishing the Nile Valley Parliament as an expression of their hopes, ambitions, and aspirations and by declaring their solid will to change the way of life in this peaceful valley and to draw up a new plan for the future by hope and action, by dreams and accomplishments, by model and example, and through trust and their capabilities. How great are these people when they confront the greatest challenges with steely determination that knows no weakness and with an historic perspective that knows no doubt or hesitation. The people will proceed on the long road with heads high that will not bow and a banner flying high in the sky announcing the break of a new dawn that will dissipate fear and need, and will illuminate the torches of freedom.

Brothers, your first meeting was in Khartoum in May 1983. You are now holding your second meeting in Cairo during the blessed days of the glorious October. This occasion will have a splendid significance and will embody immortal symbols of time and place. Our southern capital, [Khartoum], which witnessed your first meeting is the parapet of dear Africa, which remained faithful to the march of free men and to the struggle of heroes for generations. It is the bastion upon the rocks of which the attempts aimed to obliterate the cultural identity of the Arab, African, and Islamic peoples were destroyed. [applause]

There were successive revolutions carried out by a group of believers who defied death, coercion, and oppression. The group sacrificed their pure lives for the sake of their beliefs and principles. It was God's will that your first meeting was held on 25 May which is the revolution day of modern Sudan. The revolution's torch is still flaming and its banners are flying high. Its good effect will continue to fill the banks of this valley and to inspire hope in it under the leadership of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. [applause] He is one of the honorable symbols of unique Arab nobility, of courage for what is right, and of sacrifice for the sake of principle. [applause]

Your second meeting is being held in Cairo, the radiating light of Islam, the pulsating heart of Arabism, Africa's protecting shield, and the cradle of forbearance and creative coexistence, the minarets and church towers of which stand high up. [applause] The call for right and good emanates from Cairo, preaching the greatest thing in the world and the dearest thing in life.

In this sacred valley, man took his first step towards civilization and erected the first edifice of culture on the basis of absolute loyalty to the creator and a deep realization of the message of man, his heir on earth. Divine providence has also willed that your second session should come following our one people's celebration of the great victory day in which the sons of the Nile valley achieved the greatest achievements in our nation's contemporary history. They proved to the entire world that when they shout, "God is great," [applause] they can shake the mountains and earth, and through victory and sacrifice they can rectify the course of history, translate dreams into reality, and change history forever in a few moments. [applause]

We must be inspired by these great things and this flowing spirit while continuing our work along the course of integration and translate them into an energy that builds, renews, corrects, and shows the way; that moves forward firmly with conviction, and is not tied down by the shackles of the past, its mistakes and sorrow; that is open to all trends and tributaries; that is not isolated, or closed or withdrawn into itself; that adds to the abundant record of achievements and does not diminish the massive heritage; that protects the soil, honor, and dignity; that is based on pride, purity, and honesty; that respects intellect and is not averse to opinion; that establishes justice; and that contains no oppression nor tyranny. This is how we proceed toward establishing the eminent society in the noble valley.

Brothers and sisters, while proceeding to the second year of the joint legislative action, we have to put before ourselves the noble aims of our one people at this important and historic turning point. We must know our priorities and the areas of our interest. We might all agree to be guided by the following broad outlines, while we are going deeper into this great work which constitutes a collective responsibility which each one of us bears according to his capability and ability to give:

1. Our noblest aim of the integration course is to increase production and productivity. The increasing expectations cannot be achived except through more effort, labor, and sweat. Integration in itself is not a magic wand with which we work miracles. It is an inspiring spirit and a burning fire which we can change

into a massive capability of production and achievement. On the other hand we can be reluctant and dependent on others and thus we will be regretful later. Such a fate we do not want nor accept because it is incompatible with the homeland's dignity and with loyalty to the masses who are the beneficiaries of every single wise act of unity.

2. As we push for increases in production we have to lay particular emphasis on increasing our food sufficiency, because a nation that does not produce its food does not have freedom or independence of will. We will not give up our willpower and jeopardize our future while we have enough agricultural and livestock resources to keep us away from crises and pressures. [applause]

3. We regard integration efforts as a nucleus for a more comprehensive Arab unity and a broader African movement which are not based on constitutional and legal documentation but which fairly mirror harmony among people, similarity of interests, and affinity of attitudes. In this sense, integration is not a call for polarization but — in form and content — a plea for understanding and cohesion. We are advocates of unity and messengers of peace and love. The world in which we are living badly needs more cooperation and coordination. It does not need disputes, conflicts, and turbulence. The challenges we are facing are much greater than these passing squabbles.

The Arab nation witnessed during the past weeks an objective move toward bolstering solidarity among the sons of the one nation and strengthening the Arab existence itself when fraternal Jordan made its courageous decision stemming from its concept of the higher pan-Arab aims [applause] and of the course of struggle at this critical stage in our history.

Jordan has opened with this step, great in its significance, a new page in the history of joint Arab action. It has added a brick to the edifice of real unity. While saluting Jordan and its great leader His Majesty King Husayn for taking this wise, pan-Arab step, we renew the pledge and oath that we will spare no efforts to bolster the links of solidarity and integration within the Arab family, the Islamic group, and in all the African sphere.

4. By the same token and out of these same convictions, we have to pay particular attention to establishing harmony and accord within our community. All compatriots in every corner of the Nile valley should enjoy the same rights and have the same responsibilities. This is the way to boost their feeling of belonging and their loyalty.

The more successful we are in introducing this harmony in our social texture, the more we reduce disparities and contradictions, the more able we will be to lay the foundation of the model state we crave and are trying, in all earnestness and with total responsibility, to establish.

Our path to achieving this homogeneity is through rational dialogue, recognition of the right of all citizens to equal participation, and readiness to accept opposing views as long as this is expressed through legitimate channels which the society accepted and within the legal limits drawn up. We will not be upset by criticism, nor will we make a unilateral decision, or act without the masses.

5. The integration march requires that all our actions should be a continuous, successive link in a chain each of which paves the way for the other so that the following steps will be built upon what has been accomplished. There will be no break between one step and another and between what has been achieved over a specific time and the work to be carried out in subsequent phases. Otherwise it means that we will be committing a mistake of thoughtlessness divorced from the movement of history and which cannot bring us nearer to our desired goals. It will, however, drain our resources and consume our efforts in vain. Consequently it will be necessary for us to stop at every phase to appraise the work we have accomplished and to visualize how to link what had actually been achieved with what we propose to achieve in the near future.

Therefore, it is important that we carefully study the reports of your committees which have fulfilled the first stage of their task be it in the field of production, national security, foreign relations, financial and economic affairs, or popular organizations.

6. Legislative stability is one of the basic requirements for progress along the road to integration. The change to which we aspire cannot be achieved through leaps and bounds but comes as a result of normal growth in which the individual takes part and the society adapts, utilizing it as an instrument for progress toward the future. While stability is a necessity in various aspects of the social movement, it is more essential in the field of legislation because the law is the instrument defining the mode of action and change. The more legislation is characterized by deliberation and moderation, the greater the necessary guarantees for rational development become available so that progress can be made to strengthen the social structure in various fields. It will also protect society against the catastrophes of tension and shock and against shortsightedness in the future.

Brother president, Mrs Numayri, brothers and sisters, let us proceed with God's blessing. Let us march along the road with the people's confidence planting the trees of freedom, and carrying the torches of democracy. Long live every hand which builds a brick in the structure of unity. Bless every heart eager to make sacrifices for the sake of the homeland. [applause] Long live the unity of the Nile valley. God's peace, mercy, and blessing be upon you. [applause]

Conditions for Envoy's Return to Tel Aviv

GF131724 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 12 Oct p 1

[Excerpt] New York — *AL-WATAN* has learned from informed sources that during his meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in New York, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid explained to him very unequivocally that Egypt has three main conditions for returning an Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv. The conditions are: 1) Israel should set the Palestinian question in motion in accordance with UN resolutions to find a just solution and to establish peace in the region; 2) Israel should withdraw unconditionally from Lebanon; and 3) It should dissolve the armed gangs in southern Lebanon supported by Israel under the leadership of agent Antoine Lahd, because these gangs encroach on the Lebanese people and threaten their security.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed to Yitzhaq Shamir that there is no chance whatsoever that an Egyptian ambassador will return to Tel Aviv prior to the fulfillment of these conditions. *AL-WATAN*

also learned that during his meeting with Yitzhaq Shamir, Dr 'Abd al-Majid told him that he does not agree with Israel's description of the PLO as a terrorist organization because it is a national liberation movement. He addressed Shamir saying to him: I hope that you personally will understand the dimensions of what I mean.

AL-AHRAM on Relations With Jordan, Hasan's Visit

NC122133 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Oct (MENA) — In its Saturday edition, *AL-AHRAM* reports that the Jordanian Government is involved in urgent contacts with several concerned Arab nations, the foremost of which are Saudi Arabia, the Gulf States, Morocco, Iraq, and the PLO leaders, to give them the full picture and brief them on the outcome of President Husni Mubarak's visit to Amman and his talks with His Majesty King Husayn.

The Jordanian Government had described these talks as intended to close Arab ranks, consolidate Arab solidarity, initiate positive interaction among the Arab states, and strengthen joint efforts to resolve the Palestine issue.

AL-AHRAM also reports in this respect that a decree will be issued in Cairo and Amman by President Husni Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn in the next few days creating a joint higher committee to draft the Jordanian-Egyptian action strategy in various areas and implement the program of bilateral cooperation without obstacle.

The committee, to be chaired by the Egyptian and Jordanian prime ministers in rotation, will convene in both Cairo and Amman. It is to include the two countries' ministers of foreign affairs, interior, economy, trade, planning, agriculture, education, and information, as well as several other officials. Special ministerial committees will be selected from the higher committee to draft bilateral cooperation and coordination programs.

AL-AHRAM also reports that it has been decided to appoint a high-level Jordanian delegation to accompany Crown Prince Hasan on his upcoming visit to Egypt. The visit will begin on 20 October and will last 4 days, during which time the crown prince will meet with President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Defense Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

During his visit, Crown Prince Hasan will preside over a seminar on Egyptian-Jordanian scientific cooperation, to be attended by Egyptian ministers and leading technical scientists, and senior Jordanian officials and university directors.

A decree will be issued in Amman in the next few days nominating the new Jordanian ambassador to Egypt. New Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbah will arrive in Cairo this coming Tuesday for consultation with Foreign Ministry officials and to join the Egyptian delegation at talks Crown Prince Hasan will hold in Cairo. The new Egyptian ambassador is expected to present his credentials to His Majesty King Husayn following his return to Amman.

MAYU Interviews Mubarak on Local, Arab Issues

NC150746 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has asserted that Jordan's decision to restore full diplomatic relations with Egypt is a highly responsible one. It also reflects a true understanding of the pan-Arab interest. The decision was made for a single purpose — to strengthen Arab solidarity and to break the vicious circle of divisions and perdition afflicting the Arab nation.

In an interview with the current issue of the weekly paper *MAYU*, President Mubarak expects other Arab countries to follow Jordan's example during the coming months so that 1985 will be the year of rectifying the Arab course and restoring the sitaution to normal.

In the interview President Mubarak dealt with the domestic and foreign issues of the 3 years of his presidency. In appraising Egypt's policy at the Arab level, he said its starting point is belief in the unity of interests and destiny of all Arab countries and the impossibility of real contradiction between the interests of their people.

President Mubarak said unity of interests and destiny of the Arab countries must be reflected in the policies pursued by Arab governments so that there will be more solidarity. It will become necessary to refrain from media attacks and the trading of derogatory remarks and accusations, particularly accusations of treachery and agentry. He added that these expressions have regrettably become prevalent in the Arab political situation and that efforts expended by Arab countries in these press campaigns could be directed to achieve benefits or ward off harm.

President Mubarak dealt with the domestic situation in Egypt. He stressed his belief in, and adherence to, the social and political concept of democracy. He described it as the fence that protects society in times of war and peace.

Answering a question on the achievements of the past 3 years and the new targets for the coming stage, President Mubarak said the most important achievements were: The completion of the liberation of the national soil; the achievement of social, economic, and political stability in Egypt; the start of economic reform on the basis of scientific planning and increased production; the consolidation of the democratic practice and the increase in the scope for dialogue and interaction of opinions; the confirmation of the supremacy of the law and the citizens' equality in rights and duties; and the preparation for improving the Arab situation and relations between Egypt and the other Arab countries.

As to the new targets for the coming stage, President Mubarak said these are: Bringing about a comprehensive cultural and intellectual renaissance; improving the level of education; con-

trolling the population explosion and achieving tangible progress in the field of family planning; developing Egypt's industry and setting up new industrial complexes based on advanced technology.

'Abd al-Majid Interviewed by MAYU on Current Issues

NC150800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the Arab world is coming to a crossroads and that it has to cope with current changes and influence their course before these changes leave their mark on the region. In an interview to appear in Monday's issue of the *MAYU* weekly, the foreign minister said: We Arabs need to decide what we want and how to get it before we start making demands on others. We have to understand what is happening around us and deal with events before we get left behind and lose the opportunities that present themselves only rarely.

Asked about the meaning of Arab unity in light of President Mubarak's visit to Jordan and Egyptian-Sudanese integration, 'Abd al-Majid said: Unity, in its constitutional or legal sense, was not under discussion during the Egyptian-Jordanian summit. Egypt and Jordan have sufficient historical perspective and political awareness to learn from the lessons of previous hasty attempts to achieve unity in the Arab world — attempts that have always failed. This is why during the meeting both countries' leaders concentrated on enhancing bilateral ties and establishing all-encompassing cooperation to serve as a first step toward a future of solid relations.

'Abd al-Majid was asked about the possibility of enlarging Egyptian-Jordanian coordination to include the GCC. He replied: Continued coordination and joint work form the cornerstone of Arab relations. We have common goals, troubles, and aspirations, and without coordination and joint work — without taking a common stand — we will not be able to cope with the grave challenges facing the region or overcome our troubles.

Asked about what he views as the PNC's priorities, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the PNC had encountered a number of hurdles — the greatest being Syria — vis-a-vis its convocation despite the quorum and despite the overwhelming Palestinian majority that supports Yasir 'Arafat as PLO Executive Committee chairman.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed hope that the Palestinians will manage to overcome all difficulties facing them so they can rearrange their cards and adopt a unified stand to confront all challenges in the area.

To a question about the Islamic reaction to the Egyptian initiative concerning the occupied Palestinian territory, the foreign minister said that, in his address to the UN General Assembly, he proposed that Al-Azhar and all other religious institutes in Egypt help and assist the sons of occupied Palestinian land in the various educational, cultural, and religious fields. The foreign minister pointed out that he had met with the PLO delegation, led by Faruq Qaddumi, and that the delegation expressed its extreme interest in, and high appreciation for, the Egyptian initiative. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid added that the Egyptian and Palestinian sides agreed to coordinate their efforts to propose a draft resolution in this regard at the Islamic conference so that a resolution can be adopted for the implementation of the initiative.

On Egyptian proposals to ensure safe navigation in the Red Sea, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: I have met in New York with all the foreign ministers of the Red Sea littoral states. We all agreed on the need to hold a conference on Red Sea security with all littoral states participating. The conference, the foreign minister added, is expected to be held either in November or December.

Khalil on Relations With Jordan, Israel

NC122203 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Oct (MENA) — Dr Mustafa Khalil, deputy leader of the National Democratic Party for foreign affairs, has called upon the Arab nation to show solidarity, to collaborate, and to join ranks in the determination to bring about peace and impose a fait accompli on Israel. In an interview to be published in Saturday's edition of *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*, Dr Khalil said that unity first among the Palestinian ranks and then among Arabs at large should precede the convocation of an international conference to solve the Middle East issue.

Dr Khalil stressed that if it proves impossible to achieve Arab unanimity on a plan to solve the Palestine question, there will be no other course for those who want to solve the question and save the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but bilateral negotiations. He added that boycotting these negotiations on the pretext that they involve danger would simply place the issue in stasis and waste time.

Regarding the present Israeli Government and its attitude toward peace with Egypt, Dr Khalil expressed his belief that this government has a better opportunity than did the previous Likud government to prove by deed, and not just words, that it wants to improve relations with Egypt. Dr Khalil expressed regret over the Likud government's actions, which actually rendered the Middle East situation worse and damaged the Camp David treaty.

Commenting on the resumption of Jordanian-Egyptian relations, Dr Khalil said that the two states' restoration of relations does not affect Camp David. He pointed out that Egypt does not try to impose Camp David on anyone, just as it will not allow others to force it to forsake Camp David.

Defense Secretary Weinberger Departs for Tel Aviv

NC151108 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA) — U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger left Cairo this afternoon for Israel at the end of his official 3-day visit to Egypt as part of a tour of the Middle East.

The U.S. secretary of defense will stop on his way to Tel Aviv at (Al-Jawrah) airport in Sinai to visit the U.S. troops taking part

in the peace-keeping in Sinai as part of the Multinational Force. Weinberger was seen off by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

Chadian Official Departs for Home After 6-Day Visit

NC151321 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA) — Korom Hamet, Chadian minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo this morning on his way back home at the end of a 6-day visit to Egypt during which he attended the meetings of the Egyptian-Chadian Joint Committee for Technical Cooperation. During his visit the Chadian minister signed six cooperation agreements in the fields of information, tourism, health, agriculture, transport, and communications.

Australia Signs 10-Million Ton Wheat Agreement

NC132214 Cairo MENA in English 2142 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, Oct 13 (MENA) — Egypt and Australia signed today an agreement under which Australia will deliver to Egypt 10 million tons of wheat over 5 years at the rate of 2 million tons annually. The agreement, providing for payment over 3 years through credit facilities and with a 1-year period of grace, was signed by Minister of Supply and Home Trade Naji Shatlah for Egypt and Chairman of the Australian Wheat Council Leslie Price for Australia.

In a statement made after signing the agreement, Dr Shatlah said Egypt's requirements (?amount) to about 4.2 million tons a year, of which 2 million tons have been secured under today's agreement with Australia, while the United States and Canada provide 1 million tons each.

An appendix to the agreement deals with technical cooperation between Egypt and Australia to train Egyptian flour-milling and storage sector workers at specialized institutes in Australia and Europe, supply some storage and milling equipment, and delegate an Australian expert team to train Egyptian grain storage workers on latest methods in the field.

GDR Extends Loan to Electrical Industry

NC131626 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 13 Oct (MENA) — The GDR Government has agreed to extend a $100 million long-term loan to the electricity sector in Egypt. The loan will be used to import equipment needed to expand the integrated electricity network, to implement the national program to supply electricity to Egypt's rural areas, and to carry out some of the projects of the Electricity Ministry's 5-year plan; so declared Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, following a meeting of the Joint Egyptian-GDR Energy Committee. Abazah led the Egyptian side at the meeting, while the GDR side was led by Dr (?Wekker), GDR deputy minister of electrical engineering and electronics, who is presently on a 3-day visit to Cairo.

Briefs

PRC Ambassador Ends Tour — Cairo, 14 Oct (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today received Ding Guoyu, PRC ambassador in Cairo, to bid him farewell. The ambassador, who ended his term of office in Cairo, has been assigned another position in his country. [Text] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Oct 84 NC*]

Air Force Attacks 'Very Large' Maritime Target

JN151616 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1606 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In implementation of the measures of the siege imposed on Khark Island and the other Iranian ports, in order to prevent the Iranian regime from utilizing its oil resources in continuing its aggression aainst our people and homeland, and out of our right to defend our national and pan-Arab interests, our valiant Air Force carried out a destructive strike against a very large maritime target south of Iran's Khark Island at 1700 (1400 GMT) today. Flames and columns of smoke were seen rising from the attacked target. All of our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly, praise be to God.

We will continue to destroy any maritime target that approaches the prohibited zone until the Iranian regime yields to the call for a comprehensive peace and recognizes Iraq's legitimate rights to utilize the territorial and international waters. It is God who grants victory.

[Dated] 15 October 1984

Communique Reports Khark Attack

JN151735 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Communique No 1,619 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 October 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our ground, Naval, and Air Forces continue to dictate their invincible will on the operational scenes on the ground, in the air, and at sea, defying the misguided, boastful clique of Iranian rulers, who are good only at making hollow utterances, and resolving to impose the will of justice and peace. The results of the activities for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. In implementation of the measures of the siege imposed on Khark Island and other Iranian ports, our valiant Air Force carried out a destructive strike against a very large maritime target south of Khark Island at 1700 [1400 GMT] today. Flames and columns of smoke were seen rising from the attacked target. All of our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

2. One of our brave combat patrols carried out an operation against the positions of an enemy unit in the operational area east of Basra. The patrol reached these positions, destroyed some of them, and brought back a quantity of weapons and equipment.

In other parts of the same sector, our forward units, using artillery and other weapons, directed violent strikes at enemy positions, weapon emplacements, and vehicles, scoring very effective hits, inflicting losses in personnel, and destroying one infantry position and three medium and light machine guns.

3. Our valiant forward units pounded several enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the operational theater, killing two, wounding others, destroying one personnel shelter, and setting fire to one enemy observation post.

4. Our heroic fighters fired on an enemy observation post opposite their positions in the Maysan sector. They managed to directly hit and destroy it.

5. Yesterday, the vile enemy shelled a civilian area in the Mandali environs with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 October 1984

President Addresses Visiting Iranian Families

JN151516 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has said that Islam has built bridges of fraternity among all mankind and entrenched the course of stable peace among world peoples.

Addressing a group of Iranian families currently in Iraq to visit the holy shrines, the president said that Khomeyni wants to reverse the wheel of life and return it to the past backward era, although Islam has always been progressive even at the time when the Islamic message was revealed 1,400 years ago.

President Saddam Husayn added that both Iraq and Iran have been afflicted by Khomeyni and his evil tendencies. However, he said, facts can still unfold in a manner that is contrary to his desires.

The Iranian families expressed their profound appreciation for Iraq, the neighborly Muslim country, in its efforts to establish peace, stressing that the Iranian people do not want war with Iraq. They also expressed their indignation at the Iranian regime's continued aggression toward Iraq and its prolongation of the war.

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With Turkey's Halefoglu

JN151625 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Oct (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Vahit Halefoglu, Turkish minister of foreign affairs, here today. The two sides reviewed relations between the two neighborly countries and other issues of common concern.

The Turkish official arrived here yesterday on a visit of several days to Iraq.

Halefoglu Departs 15 Oct

JN151832 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Oct (INA) — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu left Baghdad for home this evening at the end of a visit to Iraq during which he held official talks.

He was seen off by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, several Foreign Ministry officials, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Defecting Iranian Cleryman Criticizes Khomeyni

GF151220 [Editorial report] Baghdad Television Service in Persian at 1030 GMT on 15 October carried a 21-minute talk, recorded or live, with the defecting clergyman Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh 'Ali Tehrani, with fair reception, but no video available.

He begins with a recitation from the Koran, saying that if a person digresses from the path of truth and strays from the Koranic injunctions, he is worse than an animal. Man's objective is moral not material and anything that makes him deviate from this noble course is to be condemned. Those whom we considered noble have distorted Koranic injunctions for their own ends, and disgraced the name of Islam besides misinterpreting Koranic verses whenever it suits them. "He [Khomeyni] says that I have given people freedom. Freedom is the right of the people. God created people free. You have taken away this God-given freedom from the people." He continues his diatribe against Khomeyni saying that all those promises that Khomeyni had made in his speeches recorded before the revolution have been broken. He predicts that with the conditions Khomeyni has created in Iran — the executions, the suppression of freedom, the torture, and genocide that he has carried out — it is impossible for Khomeyni to continue much longer.

Tehrani then cites what he said about Khomeyni once in a newspaper interview, that Khomeyni has flouted the Constitution and does not follow it. So they put him in prison.

"I told him myself that you have violated the Constitution. He said: Yes I have, so what? Just because something is against the Constitution, does not mean it is against Islam."

Tehrani then lashes out at Khomeyni with pejorative terms such as "corrupt and deviant," saying that he has initiated repression and suffocation. He argues that God has given freedom to man and now that Khomeyni says that he has given freedom to people, he is claiming divinity!

Tehrani cites from the Koran profusely to support his argument and accuses Khomeyni of decimation of the population by killings, executions, and treachery against the nation. Those youths, who in the past had listened to the clergymen at the pulpits talking of the noble life, see now that we are acting to the contrary and committing such crimes in the name of Islam, law, and truth.

He explains that the real "wager of war against God is the one who has weapons and uses them to harass and intimidate people. May God avenge all this!"

He then speaks on the traits of a true Muslim, whose faith guides him on the right path as opposed to Khomeyni and his acolytes. He adds that wrongdoers will definitely meet their nemesis in this world and the hereafter, as nothing can go on eternally, so Khomeyni should not remain too complacent, as the faithful will triumph over infidels as promised in the Koran. He concludes at 1051 GMT saying that he will elaborate further on this topic in subsequent talks.

Briefs

Four Ambassadors Present Credentials— Baghdad, 15 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received the credentials of some Arab and foreign ambassadors to Iraq today. He received the credentials of 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali 'Abdallah, new Sudanese ambassador; (Alhaji Ali Kombi), new Nigerian ambassador; (Cornilson Fridon Byrk), new Netherlands ambassador; and Ali Mohamed Abdi, nonresident Kenyan ambassador to Iraq. [Text] [*Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 15 Oct 84 JN*]

King Husayn Leads Delegation to Iraq 16 Oct

JN161615 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn left for Baghdad this afternoon on a working visit to Iraq. During this visit, his majesty will hold talks with His Excellency President Saddam Husayn.

He was seen off by Crown Prince Hasan, the Senate president, the House of Representatives speaker, the deputy prime minister and interior minister, the chief chamberlain, the ministers, a number of civilian and military officials, and the Iraqi charge d'affairs in Amman.

In the presence of the Cabinet and before His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan took the Constitutional oath as regent during his majesty's absence from the homeland.

His majesty was accompanied by Ahmad 'Ubaydat, the prime minister; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, the court minister; and Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

INA Cites Source on King Husayn's USSR Visit

JN141645 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1602 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] Amman, 14 Oct (INA) — A responsible Jordanian source has denied reports about the postponement of King Husayn's expected visit to the Soviet Union. Najati al-Dajani, secretary general of the Jordanian royal court, told INA today that these reports are baseless and tendentious, and that they are intended to confuse world public opinion. The Israeli radio today reported that the visit has been postponed and that it would have coincided with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the Soviet Union.

Cabinet Approves Budget, Allocates Funds for South

NC151424 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Cabinet ended its extraordinary session by approving the 1985 general state budget. Minister Nabih Birri stated after the meeting that the Cabinet decided to allocate 300 million pounds for the State Ministry for the South and Reconstruction Affairs, 30 million pounds to the South Council, and 100 million pounds to the state security organ.

Karami Specifies Budget Cuts

NC151550 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The Cabinet session ended at 1605 today. After the session, Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] God be praised, we have approved the 1985 budget. The following reductions were made in the draft budget:

The first part of the budget was reduced by 144 million pounds. The second part, Section A, was reduced by 341 million pounds. The third part, Section B, was reduced by 1.438 billion pounds. Thus, the total reduction was 1.923 billion pounds. The increments approved in some articles of the budget totalled 861 million pounds, meaning the net reduction was 1.062 billion pounds. The deficit in the draft budget, as submitted to the Cabinet, was 3.737 billion pounds. After the adjustments that I have just mentioned, the deficit now stands at 2.675 billion pounds.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is it possible to know the final budget figure?

[Karami] Actually, we cannot say what the figure is. You can get the figure from the Finance Ministry.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, will there be a Cabinet session on Wednesday?

[Karami] God willing.

[Reporter] Will it be held in Bikfayya or in B'abda?

[Karami] There is no difference. At either Bikfayya or B'abda, it will be the same. [end recording]

Birri, Junblatt Want Ministerial Conclaves Resumed

NC160739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Excerpts] At its extraordinary session under President Amin al-Jumayyil yesterday, the Cabinet approved the 1985 general budget. The session was attended by Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the ministers, except Minister Joseph Skaf who is presently in Tunis.

Prime Minister Karami said that the Cabinet will meet again this coming Wednesday.

The Cabinet referred the budget to the Chamber of Deputies for approval.

Intensive contacts will be held at various levels today following the appearance yesterday of a new stand by Ministers Birri and Junblatt, who announced that they will not attend the Cabinet sessions but will only attend the ministerial conclaves.

Minister Birri said that the reason is due to the fact that the committees stemming from the Bikfayya ministerial conclaves have not been invited to meet and no decree on their formation has been issued so far.

Likewise, no new date was set for resuming the ministerial conclaves to discuss other subjects in the government's policy statement, be it with respect to administrative reforms or with respect to amending the electoral law by increasing the number of deputies and amending the Constitution to allow the appointment of successors to deceased deputies.

Minister Birri received a message last night from senior Syrian officials conveyed to him by 'Abdallah al-Amin and Riyad Ra'd.

They also visited 'Adil 'Usayran.

Minister Birri also received a call from Minister Junblatt last night during which they consulted over developments in light of the Cabinet session and the question of resuming the ministerial conclaves.

Minister Birri said: We have agreed on the same views.

Sources close to Minister Junblatt said that intensive contacts will be held today to eliminate obstacles in an attempt to set a date for convening the ministerial conclaves.

Former Minister Marwan Hamadah contacted Prime Minister Karami and Minister al-Huss, briefing them on Minister Junblatt's stand.

Husayn al-Husayni Elected Speaker 16 Oct

NC161020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1012 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un, as the oldest member of the Chamber of Deputies, announced a short while ago that Deputy Husayn al-Husayni has been elected to the post of speaker of the Chamber of Deputies.

Deputy al-Husayni received 41 votes while Speaker al-As'ad received 28 votes. Four votes were blank and two others were void.

Therefore, Ba'labakk al-Hirmil deputy, Husayn al-Husayni, became the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies 5 minutes ago, according to our reporter in Mansur Palace.

Reportage on Fighting in Iqlim al-Kharrub

Area Receives Sniper Fire

NC151415 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Majdaluna and Mazra'at ad-Dahr in the Iqlim al-Kharrub area received sniper fire this afternoon from the Junblatt gunmen's positions. Al-Rumaylah, Jun, Majdaluna, and Al-Jumayliyah had received artillery fire from the Junblatt gunmen's positions before noon today.

In the mountain, the Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb received bursts of automatic weapons fire a short while ago from the Junblatt gunmen's positions in 'Aytat.

'Guarded Calm' After Clashes

NC151324 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over Lebanon for long periods and carried out mock air raids over some mountain areas, drawing antiaircraft fire.

Meanwhile, guarded calm prevails on the Iqlim al-Kharrub lines after the Phalangist militias caused a large-scale flareup in the security situation and shelled nationalist positions and areas with heavy-caliber artillery and rockets.

Shelling by Phalangists Reported

NC151410 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Phalangist militias have aggravated the security situation in the Iqlim al-Kharrub area. They fired shells at schools, institutions, and houses in Al-Mughayriyah, Kitrmaya, Mazbud, and at some parts of Shhim in an effort to injure a large number of innocent victims: Since 0715 today they used 155-mm, 120-mm, and 82-mm heavy artillery and long-range artillery to shell villages and townships in the area, causing casualties and damage to property.

Although two cease-fires were announced, the Phalangist militias continued their shelling from their positions in Majdaluna.

Palestinians Set Up New Positions in Mountain

NC151156 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has received information to the effect that the Palestinians have reorganized their ranks on the combat lines of 'Aytat, Kayfun, Shamlan, and Al-Ma'rufiyah. They hoisted Palestinian flags over the new positions which face the Army positions. The so-called Abu Rabi' is in charge of the new positions in 'Aytat.

Israeli Air Reconnaissance Seen as 'Intensified'

NC151503 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1420 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Israeli warplanes again flew over the south and Al-Biqa' at 1615. It has been noticed that such reconnaissance operations have intensified following attempts by armed Palestinians to infiltrate Israeli positions in the Jazzin area.

Resistance Fighters Carry Out 3 Attacks in South

NC151326 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] In the south, national resistance fighters today carried out three operations against Zionist enemy patrols in Al-Sarafand, Al-Sharqiyah, and Qa'qa'iyat al-Jasr. According to security reports, the enemy soldiers suffered seven casualties. The enemy soldiers surrounded the three areas and detained some citizens.

National resistance fighters last night attacked an enemy patrol in the Al-Zahrani area with rockets and automatic weapons, causing an unspecified number of casualties among the enemy soldiers. The enemy radio admitted the operation, claiming that the attack caused no casualties among the occupation soldiers.

VOL on Rif'at al-Asad's Status in Syria

NC140645 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] According to information available exclusively to us, a republican decree has been issued in Damascus defining the powers of Rif'at al-Asad as Syrian vice president for security affairs and private tasks.

The decree was issued prior to an official visit that President Hafiz al-Asad is expected to pay to Moscow in the next few days. The visit is to last several days.

Informed sources believe that the decree was issued to settle several domestic matters in Syria and to give Rif'at al-Asad, currently in France, a fundamental role in his country. The decree also put an end to the controversy caused by statements made by Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas, who declared that Rif'at al-Asad had been deported forever from Syria and would have no role in the future.

Coverage, Comment on Al-Asad Trip to USSR

Al-Asad Departs for USSR

JN151331 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad left today leading a party and state delegation on a visit to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

The delegation accompanying the president is comprised of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice president of the Republic; General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister; Ahmad Diyab, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Regional Command and head of the National Security Bureau; Daniel Ni'mah, member of the Progressive National Front's Central Leadership; Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning affairs; Dr Salim Yasin, minister of economy and foreign trade; Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs; and Jabri al-Kafri, director of the East European Desk at the Foreign Ministry. Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, Syrian ambassador to the USSR, will join the delegation in Moscow.

Damascus on Trip's Importance

JN151306 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad will visit the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet leaders and the CPSU. The exchange of visits by senior officials from Syria and the USSR has become a normal, familiar, and useful practice, and an excellent tradition in the relations between the two friendly countries. The history of relations and cooperation between Syria and the USSR testifies that the summit meetings between the two countries have always led to further strengthening cooperation and friendship, and entrenching the foundations of relations between the two countries. These meetings have always led to positive results that have actively served the issue of world peace and the struggle of nations against imperialism, racism, and their endeavor to achieve political and economic freedom and social progress.

President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the USSR in light of the extremely complicated international and regional circumstances and developments and future prospects is of great international and regional significance. Undoubtedly, the expected positive results of the visit at all levels will have a great impact on future the development of relations between Syria and the USSR and on the overall situation in the Middle East, where U.S. imperialist designs aimed at dominating the region and Israel's design to achieve territorial expansion and liquidation of the Palestinian people's issue clash with the Arab national liberation movements that seek to achieve a just, comprehensive peace based on the principles of the UN Charter and UN resolutions on Palestine, the Middle East, and human rights.

The history of developments in the region has shown that cooperation between Syria and the USSR has always championed the just causes of the Arab masses and the cause of peace, freedom, and progress in the region. Moreover, this cooperation has always been an impregnable dam in the face of imperialist designs, Israel's aggressions, and the capitulation of defeatist leaders, who capitulated to imperialism and Israel and defied the will of their peoples. Syria, which has always highly valued the USSR's principled stands in support of the Arab national liberation movement and its just objectives, has continuously developed its relations with this friendly country and adopted the cooperation and friendship treaty, signed between the countries on 8 October 1980, as a firm basis for continuing to develop and broaden cooperation between the two countries in all fields. Moreover, Syria continues to believe that there is still ample scope for further developing and broadening cooperation in all fields to serve the interests of the two friendly countries, the interest of world peace, and the interest of pan-Arab struggle to liberate occupied land, regain usurped rights, and achieve unity. Syria and the USSR appreciate the great importance of promoting relations and cooperation under current circumstances during which U.S. imperialism has intensified its attempts to aggravate international relations and the arms race and has intensified its efforts in the region to impose its hegemony and will and to facilitate Israeli aggression and expansion.

Undoubtedly the two sides' efforts will concentrate on developing cooperation and relations in a manner in harmony will the requirements and necessities of the current phase.

TISHRIN on USSR Visit

JN150728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 15 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *TISHRIN* publishes on its front page a dispatch by its Moscow correspondent in which he affirmed that Soviet political circles attach great importance to President Hafiz al-Asad's forthcoming visit to the USSR. This is because the visit takes place in complicated, critical international circumstances due to the U.S. Administration's hostile policy toward freedom and peace-loving peoples. The Middle East situation has also become critical due to increasing U.S. assistance to the Zionist enemy so it can continue its aggression against Syria which, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, represents the stronghold of Arab steadfastness against the aggressive plans of U.S. imperialism and world Zionism.

AL-BA'TH on Visit's Significance

JN150944 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 15 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's comment, *AL-BA'TH* speaks about the special significance of leader Al-Asad's visit to the USSR. The paper says: Observers are viewing leader Al-Asad's visit to the USSR with great interest, because it is taking place amid the unusual

atmosphere prevailing in the international situation in general and the Arab situation in particular — an atmosphere showing signs of a major adventure by the U.S. Administration and Israel in pursuance of their common aggressive policy. The U.S. Administration, accustomed to resorting to the military option to secure separate solutions and win over one defeatist regime after another, continues to adhere to this policy, thereby forgetting past and recent lessons. Israel, the guided and executive ally, also continues to stockpile more tools of war and destruction in preparation for new adventure after the Pentagon has opened its doors wide before Peres, who has affirmed that he has obtained all that he requested.

AL-BA'TH continues: Perhaps some people may ask, why the adventure and military option when the Jordanian regime and 'Arafat have already passed through the Camp David gate intentionally and voluntarily and Saddam is not far behind them? Is it not true that the idea is to carry out the policy of achieving separate solutions and to continue with this policy until the final liquidation of the Palestine question? This is correct in some aspects. The policy of separate solutions has indeed achieved the Camp David accords and the 17 May agreement. But have these agreements achieved their objectives and purposes? The 6 years since the Camp David accords are clear proof that the accords were stillborn. Neither has normalization or Lebanon turning into a U.S.-Israeli protectorate succeeded, nor have the liquidation plans undermined the Palestine question. The past 6 years have witnessed the Camp David's dilemma and deadlocked course. They have also witnessed the collapse of the agreement of submission, and consequently the recession of the U.S. military onslaught on the region. All this was possible due to Syria's firm and courageous steadfast stand under Al-Asad — a stand stemming from the firm belief in the justness of our cause and continuous hope for justice and peace. Israel, which disavows Arab rights and just peace, has requested more U.S. political, military, and economic support and got what it wanted. The two allies will thus continue to plot against the Arab liberation forces headed by Syria, the leader of the steadfastness and confrontation line.

AL-BA'TH concludes: The friendly, loyal USSR has always stood by Syria and the Arab nation in their just struggle and has supported justice and peace. It gave this assistance and support for the sake of justice and peace. Today, as the world witnesses this tense situation due to the U.S. Administration's persistance on the policy of force, and when the Arab region witnesses political and military moves that show signs of danger, loyal friends must meet in the context of continuous cooperation based on mutual respect and strengthening the common struggle against plans of the enemies of freedom, progress, and peace.

AL-THAWRAH Views Al-Asad Trip

JN151009 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Damascus, 15 Oct (SANA) — In its leading article today, *AL-THAWRAH* affirms that President al-Asad's USSR visit acquires great importance and rises to the level of a historical event not only because of the events in the region, but also because of Syria's leading role in the struggle of the Arab national liberation movement on the one hand and in confronting Zionist and imperialist plots and intrigues on the other.

The paper adds: The firm, strong relations between Syria and the USSR make President al-Asad's meeting with the Soviet leaders exceptionally important. This is because the continuous consultations between the two friendly countries have deepened and strengthened these relations and also resulted in coordination of efforts to foil the Zionist and imperialist onslaught on the Arab region. Al-Asad's Syria is the center of struggle against aggression and hegemony and the forward base that firmly defends the Arab and world national liberation movement.

The paper concludes: A review of the results of previous visits by President al-Asad to the USSR indicates that this visit will have a long list of positive and fruitful results in favor of cooperation and friendship between the two countries, their peoples, and their parties.

Soviet Coverage of Visit

For Soviet reportage on the visit of Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic and secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, to the Soviet Union, including his meeting with Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, see the Middle East and North Africa section of the 16 October Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Chief of Staff on 'Possible' Israeli Withdrawal

JN151804 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Answering a question by a SANA correspondent on a possible Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon being talked about by some Israeli officials, and on Israeli intentions, General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of the General Staff of the Army and Armed Forces said: The Lebanese people's resistance will continue as long as Israeli forces continue to exist in any Lebanese area, whether this area is big or small. Furthermore, Syria is prepared at any time, when the situation demands, to allow thousands of Syrian volunteers to join the Lebanese national resistance. We also take into account, and are prepared for, the possiblilty of Israeli military actions against Syrian forces.

Damascus on Talk About U.S.-Syrian Contacts

JN131331 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Since U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's visit to the Middle East, there has been a great deal of talk about a new U.S. role in Lebanon, about U.S. mediation of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory, and about Syrian-U.S. coordination on the subject of withdrawals and arranging the situation in Lebanon. In fact, the talk about Murhpy's mission,

its dimensions and results, is exaggerated and serves the election campaign of U.S. President Reagan, who is looking to be reelected for a second term. This talk is an attempt to improve the image of the Peres-Shamir government and to diminish the strangling international isolation surrounding Israel, which was aggravated by Israel's invasion of Lebanon and the continuation of Israeli occupation of that Arab country.

It is not unlikely that the purpose of Murphy's mission was to facilitate the entry of some Arab parties that have deviated from the pan-Arab line into negotiations for a U.S. solution. It is well known that, as U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz announced, the United States is not mediating or presenting a U.S. initiative to achieve Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. It is abundantly clear that there is no U.S.-Syrian coordination on Lebanon.

What has happened in Lebanon since the Israeli invasion in 1982 is evidence of the clash between U.S. and Syrian policies in Lebanon. Differences between U.S. and Syrian policies, however, did not stop contacts or prevent [Syria] from listening to and discussing other opinions.

Syria adopts a principled stand toward Lebanon — a stand stemming from joint fate, common history, interlinked interests, joint affiliation, common future, and from Syria's concern for Lebanon's existence, independence, sovereignty, unity of its people, and territorial integrity. Syria establishes its policy toward Lebanon, and toward all issues related to it, in light of this stand. Syria listens to other parties' opinions, discusses their ideas, and accepts or rejects their suggestions and concepts on this basis as well.

When Murphy comes to present ideas related to Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, obviously Syria should listen to such ideas and discuss them out of its concern for ending Israeli occupation of Lebanon and to help fraternal Lebanon regain its sovereignty, independence, and freedom. But when relating the idea of withdrawal to other ideas related to giving Israel what it failed to achieve in Lebanon through war, it is also obvious that Syria should reject such ideas.

Naturally, Syria refuses to deal with any issue concerning the Lebanese Government. Syria should help Lebanon exercise its sovereignty and independence and support it in the liberation of its territory and expulsion of the occupiers.

Lebanon has the right and authority to discuss and adopt the measures it believes will expel the Israeli occupiers from its territory in a way that will maintain its sovereignty and independence. Syria will stand at the side of Lebanon as it has always done.

The United States, which gave the green light to invade Lebanon and has always supplied Israel with the means of war and aggression and with what will ease its economic crises, is capable of making Israel withdraw its forces from Lebanon as soon as possible.

Any delay in achieving this increases U.S. responsibility for Israel's acts and impacts on U.S.-Arab relations, which are not good in view of U.S. stands hostile to the Arabs.

AL-BA'TH on NATO Ministers' Middle East Visits

JN150730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 15 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *AL-BA'TH* highlights reports on the meetings being witnessed by the Egyptian and Jordanian capitals and attended by several NATO defense ministers — U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weiberger, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu, and [British] Secretary of State for Defense Michael Heseltine. Diplomatic circles in Cairo say that the purpose of these meetings is to strengthen U.S. military relations with Egypt and Jordan within the NATO framework.

Damascus Cites Peres on Jordan-Israel Dialogue

JN131855 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Zionist enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has announced that serious dialogue began recently between the pillars of the Jordanian regime and the Zionist entity to solve what he called the existing problems through peaceful means and political dialogue. In a statement to the French media, he expressed his confidence that this dialogue will succeed, depending on the Jordanian regime's agreement to enter into negotiations with his entity to end what he called the differences between Israel and the Jordanian regime.

AL-THAWRAH Urges Resistance to Autonomy 'Plot'

JN130800 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 13 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "West Bank Inhabitants and Means of Confronting Plot," *AL-THAWRAH* comments in its editorial saying: It is natural for the occupied West Bank to be one of the main targets of new moves by the Camp David partners and the regimes that have recently joined this plot.

There are U.S.-Israeli-Jordanian-Egyptian-'Arafatist attempts to neutralize the West Bank inhabitants and convince them that what is taking place is in their interest and that they should be ready to participate in any later negotiations on their self-determination. These attempts are taking different forms, both overt and covert, in accordance with the requirements of the new plot being implemented by the Jordanian regime and Yasir 'Arafat to liquidate the Palestine question. The disclosure by the president of Bi'r Zayt University in the occupied West Bank that Washington has dispatched secret envoys to the occupied territory to persuade the Arab inhabitants to accept U.S. financial aid in return for their participation in political negotiations with Israel represents the serious aspect of the U.S.-Israeli-Jordanian-'Arafatist moves toward the West Bank inhabitants. It is obvious that these attempts and moves only serve the Zionist enemy and its expansionist plan to entrench its occupation of Arab territories.

AL-THAWRAH continues: This is because what is taking place in this direction is aimed at completely wiping out the West Bank and its Palestinian and pan-Arab character and at eventually swallowing it up, after the plot to liquidate the rights of the Palestinian people has completed its Egyptian, Jordanian, and 'Arafatist circles. The false promises the Jordanian regime and 'Arafat have given to the West Bank inhabitants are no more than a propaganda cover for the U.S.-Israeli move, which is attempting by various means to drag certain hirelings and agents in the occupied territory into the circle of negotiations with the enemy.

The paper says: It is certain that all capitulationist plans will never succeed, because the Arab inhabitants in the occupied West Bank are determined to resist and foil these plots and liquidatory moves. The Camp David accords cannot be the solution as far as the West Bank inhabitants are concerned. The maximum that these accords offer is the autonomy plan, which they have rejected because it is an imperialist-Zionist attempt to liquidate the Palestine question and entrench Israeli occupation of Arab territories. Resistance is the only path leading to the liberation of the West Bank. There is a clear example that can be cited here — the Lebanese resistance. When the inhabitants of the south rose to resist Israeli occupation and to exhaust its military and manpower resources, the invasion forces were compelled to seriously consider withdrawal from the Lebanese territories. This was the effect of the Lebanese resistance's successive blows and heroic operations.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: The successive popular uprisings witnessed by the occupied West Bank against the Israeli occupation authorities have clearly established that the West Bank inhabitants are facing up to the challenge and that their declared decision is to continue to resist and confront the occupation and to strongly oppose all attempts to undermine their steadfastness and involve them in the Camp David traps under false names. This provides clear proof that the Jordanian regime's plot against the West Bank inhabitants will never work out, because the occupied Arab territories are now ready for national and popular independence [istiqlal al-watani wa al-jamahiri], which will foil the new U.S.-Israeli move and bring down the delusions and bets on their owners' heads.

Al-Kasm Opens Red Cross, Crescent Conference

JN141308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, the third conference of the Mediterranean countries' Red Cross and Red Crescent societies was opened at the Umayyad Hall at the Al-Sham Hotel at 1030 today. Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm substituted for the president at the opening ceremony.

Addressing the conferees, Prime Minister Al-Kasm noted that the real pillars and principles of world peace are being threatened by the continuing current circumstances. He said: We the Mediterranean peoples realize this more than anyone else because the majority of the Mediterranean peoples have suffered for a long time from the problems of domination, hegemony, and military intervention. Perhaps the worst danger threatening the region is the emergence of Zionism as the most dangerous form of imperialism.

Dr al-Kasm noted the Israeli repressive and liquidatory practices against the Arabs in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories. He said: Perhaps when you observe these practices you will recall Nazism.

Dr al-Kasm affirmed that from its realization of the basic facts, Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad cannot possibly allow this situation to continue to exist, whether in Lebanon or in the Golan. Moreover, Syria cannot possibly allow the liquidation of the Palestinian issue whether through the Camp David slogans or through any other slogans.

Al-Zu'bi Confers With Netherlands Delegation

JN151439 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Damascus, 15 Oct (SANA) — Harry Vandenberg, deputy chairman of the Defense Committee in the Netherlands Parliament, has praised Syria's viewpoint on current issues in the region. This came during his meeting here today with People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. Vandenberg, who is currently visiting Syria at the head of a parliamentary delegation, also stressed the importance of the meetings and talks that he held with senior Syrian officials.

During the meeting, Al-Zu'bi stressed that Syria insists on defending the Arab causes until the Arab nation achieves its objectives in liberating its occupied territories and regaining the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He also referred to the role that Europe can play in this region to serve the mutual interests and to strengthen security and peace between the Arab and the European regions. He also expressed Syria's desire to exchange parliamentary visits to promote relations between the two countries.

Cabinet Session Ends; Moratorium on Debts Denied
TA151217 Jerusalem Domest' Service in Hebrew
1135 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The Cabinet session has ended, and the ministers have already left. All of them congratulated Shim'on Peres for his achievements during his visit to the United States. The prime minister gave an extensive briefing to the ministers on the results of his talks, particularly about the breathing space he obtained for Israel on the economic issue and Israel's foreign currency balances.

In the session, the prime minister denied reports published today alleging that Israel was granted a moratorium — the possibility of liquidating its debts to the United States for 6 months [sentence as heard]. All Israel received was a 6-month postponement on repayment of its debts, until the U.S. Congress convenes. On this issue and on the Cabinet session we spoke with Minister Amnon Rubinstein a few minutes ago.

[Rubinstein] I do not think that the word moratorium applies in this case. What the prime minister obtained is a postponement of its payments until the U.S. Congress convenes. This is a totally different matter; it does not even amount to a rescheduling [last word in English] and it is certainly not a moratorium, which means the foregoing of debts.

I think that the prime minister rendered a very great service to Israel in that he enabled us to put our house in order. It is not the United States that is putting our house in order. We must do this on our own. U.S. aid will not help us, neither on the issue of inflation nor on the question of the balance of payments. However, not having the depletion of our foreign currency reserves — and this is no longer a secret — hovering over our heads all the time will certainly give us breathing space.

[Schiffer] When will we begin to put our house in order? After all, you have been sitting in the government for over 1 month and an economic package deal has not yet been reached.

[Rubinstein] I want to explain one thing: In my opinion, an economic package deal is essential and those who do not realize this fail to understand Israel's problems. The government had two options: to implement a package deal with the agreement of the Histadrut or force the relevant legislation through the Knesset. Even the latter alternative entails a long and arduous path. Those who think that this legislation could be passed in the Knesset by snapping one's fingers at a time when the Histadrut is opposed to it are wrong. In other words, both options entail a long and exhausting *Via Dolorosa* which stems from the nature of our democratic regime.

Therefore, I hope that after the Consumer Price Index for September is published today and in the wake of the erosion of the cost of living increments caused by the high inflation rate, the employers and the representatives of the workers will realize that a dramatic one-time action must be taken in order to curb inflation. Otherwise, we will all suffer and we will all be hurt.

[Schiffer] How will inflation be curbed?

[Rubinstein] By means of that same package deal. Incidentally, both large parties as well as my own party promoted it in the election campaign. When you have an annual inflation rate of 800-1000 percent, the normal machinery to reduce the amount of money in circulation is not sufficient. You have to do something both dramatic and unique as well as arbitrary. Any steps taken to curb inflation will be arbitrary. Once inflation has been curbed or slowed down, we will be able to amend the distortions created in the economy.

[Schiffer] Did you also receive the impression from the prime minister's briefing that Israel is close to adopting a decision about a redeployment in Lebanon?

[Rubinstein] I support the position of the prime minister and the defense minister on the Lebanese issue and I would not like to add another word beyond that.

Further Reportage
TA151241 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1155 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Announcement by Cabinet Secretary Yosi Beilin after Cabinet session — recorded]

[Text] At the Cabinet session the prime minister reviewed his visit to the United States. He confirmed that the talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and that all the economic agreements were made without any preconditions. The prime minister expressed gratitude for President Reagan's declaration of confidence in the Israeli economy and the measures taken, and his promise to stand by Israel if it should face further difficulties.

The prime minister explained that the administration expressed its willingness to immediately advance the transfer of $1.2 billion of the allotted aid and, on its own initiative, proposed to postpone the dates of repayments of debts totalling some $0.5 billion until the beginning of next year, until Congress reconvenes. Most of that debt springs from military procurement.

As for the long-term, the prime minister's views on immediate action for a renewal of economic growth were accepted. For this purpose, it was agreed to establish a joint working team to discuss investments, the encouragement of joint projects, and the granting of guarantees. The group will begin its work within the next few days. All the conclusions agreed upon do not release Israel from the need to decrease inflation, balance its commercial balance, and increase work productivity.

The alternate prime minister and foreign minister expressed satisfaction at the fact that the visit was concluded with optimal results, despite the fears which preceded it. He reviewed his meetings in the UN General Assembly, including those with the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union, Spain, and Egypt.

Today the Cabinet approved the composition of the ministers who are to participate on its behalf in the joint Histadrut-employers economic council: the prime minister; the finance minister; the

minister of economics and planning; the minister of housing and construction; the minister of commerce and industry; and Minister 'Ezer Weizman.

The Cabinet appointed Mr Me'ir Shamir as director general of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

Further Account of Session

TA151700 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs will meet tomorrow to discuss a series of measures to curb inflation. Detailed proposals worked out by Ministers Pat and Arens will be discussed, among other things. At today's Cabinet session, many ministers — including the prime minister — emphasized that the U.S. aid promised to Israel is no reason for the Cabinet not to take immediate steps to curb inflation and renew economic growth. The main topic of today's session was a briefing by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on his visit to Washington and the results achieved. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen has the details:

The Cabinet debate, following the report by Mr Peres on his talks in the United States, actually became a debate on all the pressing issues on the national agenda: the economic crisis, Lebanon, the planned relief for the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria, and others. At the beginning of the session, the prime minister reported on the U.S. Administration's offer to postpone until March the repayment of the $500-million debt Israel owes for military procurement. The prime minister explained: We did not want to make this request, which could have portrayed us as a country incapable of repaying its debts; the initiative for this came from congressmen, and this was actually the only way to obtain emergency aid. Mr Peres detailed the composition of the joint Israel-U.S. economic committee, the establishment of which was decided during the talks in Washington. He emphasized that the committee will not dictate to Israel what economic measures to take; it will only guarantee new U.S. investments, loans, and collateral to ensure Israel's economic growth.

During the session, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i applauded the economic achievements made during the visit. He said that the U.S. aid will allow us to take action in Israel without fearing the loss of foreign currency reserves.

Alternate Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who also briefed the ministers on the trip to Washington and his talks at the United Nations, expressed satisfaction with the visit, saying that contrary to the fears that preceded it, the results of the visit could not have been better. However, at the conclusion of his remarks, Shamir said: I did not agree with a few things that were said during the visit on Tabah and Judaea and Samaria.

Minister Gad Ya'aqobi wanted to know what precisely Shamir meant, and one report we have is that Shamir merely smiled in reply. According to another version, he explained that he meant only that he did not agree with the U.S. positions on the two subjects, not that he disagreed with the positions presented by Mr Peres.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres spoke about the relief measures planned for the inhabitants of the territories, including the license to set up an Arab bank. Minister Sharon pointed out that a balance should be created between investment for development in the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria — which require Cabinet approval — and investments in the Arab sector in the territories, which he claims do not require such approval.

Minister Amnon Rubinstein supported the imbalance, saying that investments in the Jewish settlements are government investments, whereas investments in the Arab sector are private. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin noted in this context that in easing the limitations, the Cabinet has in fact returned to the policy that was implemented in 1982 while Sharon was defense minister.

The prime minister's announcements in the United States about an imminent unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon were not really discussed today. The prime minister did say that the General Staff Command and the Inner Cabinet have drawn up a number of proposals on the matter, which will be discussed soon. Minister Mordekhay Gur suggested issuing a clarification stating that Israel plans never to withdraw from Lebanon unilaterally, but the prime minister said that if the Syrians do not accept our demands, we may very well withdraw from the western and central sectors of Lebanon, and the army of southern Lebanon will deploy in the area that will be evacuated by the IDF. The deployment in the eastern sector, Peres said, will remain as it is until the Syrians accept an agreement.

Government sources told us after the session that the idea of a unilateral withdrawal is only one option placed before the Cabinet, which will have to decide which option to choose. Incidentally, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin suggested advancing the debate on the Lebanese issue to next week.

Finally, regarding economic issues, most of the ministers mentioned the need to make immediate decisions on the matter. Minister Moshe Shahal said that any postponement of the debate on economic issues might create the impression that the Cabinet intends to force a package deal on the Histadrut. Shahal maintained that this impression will be created by statements made by Likud people, that the Alignment has failed to produce the dowry it promised at the wedding — the establishment of the unity government — namely, a package deal with the Histadrut.

Rabin OK's Talks With Lebanese

TA151727 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin announced today at the Cabinet session that the defense establishment is ready to hold a debate on the IDF's deployment in Lebanon as early as next Sunday. The Cabinet was briefed today by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on the results of his visit to the United States. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports some details about the Cabinet session:

There is at present no room to talk about or discuss a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon, the defense minister told his col-

leagues in a briefing on the situation in Lebanon. The defense establishment is ready to hold a debate on an IDF redeployment as early as next Sunday. Minister Rabin emphasized this point in light of the diverse publications and statements on this issue. A decision in principle to withdraw from Lebanon, Rabin said, has already been made and is included in the basic guidelines of the national unity government. However, it is subject to and depends on security arrangements that will secure the well-being of the northern settlements.

The defense minister added that Israel is currently proceeding according to the Cabinet decision, which speaks of a political-military move that includes an indirect agreement with the Syrians and direct negotiations with the Lebanese for a bilateral agreement on security arrangements, which would enable the IDF's withdrawal from that country.

This approach was reflected in practice today in a meeting held between the chief of staff and UNIFIL Commander General Callaghan. The latter suggested that IDF and Lebanese Army officers meet under the sponsorship of UNIFIL and hold talks on future arrangements in southern Lebanon. The defense minister has authorized these contacts.

In the Cabinet session, Rabin's position was supported by his predecessor Moshe Arens, Mordekhay Gur, and Amnon Rubinstein.

Peres Remarks Aimed at Syria

TA151832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Report by political correspondent David Essing in Jerusalem — live]

[Excerpt] The prime minister told the Cabinet that he wants a decision on Lebanon within a couple of weeks. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin suggested next week, but no date has been set yet. Peres warned that Israel might take unilateral action if Syria tries to block a withdrawal agreement. He said there is definitely a possibility the Israeli Army will withdraw from western Lebanon while staying put opposite the Syrians in the Al-Biqa' Valley. Such a move would take Israeli forces out of the problematic Shi'ite areas, where they are under continual attack, while keeping the Israeli Army within artillery distance of Damascus in the east.

Israeli officials later said there is a consensus in the government that would support such a move. Peres raised the prospect with American Secretary of State George Shultz, who had not opposed it. Shultz replied: If you can cut hundreds of millions by getting out of Lebanon, all for the good, but we're not suggesting it.

Israeli officials were clearly sending a message to Damascus when they said: The Syrians will not decide for us where we stay in Lebanon. There is one catch, however: Israel wants UNIFIL forces to fill the vacuum after an Israeli pullback. However, the UN will not take up this role without the approval of Lebanon and Syria.

Talks May Begin Next Week

TA160528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] Talks between representatives of the IDF and the Lebanese Army on the military aspects of the security arrangements in southern Lebanon may begin as early as next week. Diplomatic sources told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that the talks are scheduled to be held at UNIFIL headquarters in Al-Naqurah under the auspices of the United Nations. UNIFIL Commander General William Callaghan will depart for Beirut this morning to discuss the matter with the Lebanese chief of staff, after conferring with the IDF chief of staff yesterday.

Shamir Sends Condolences on Blast to UK's Howe

TA151457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1446 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Israeli Embassy in London today conveyed a message from Yitzhaq Shamir to the British foreign secretary expressing astonishment at the criminal attack against the participants in the Tory convention in Brighton. Shamir joined in criticizing terrorism and violence which, according to him, are trying to undermine the democratic nature of Israeli and British societies. He included his condolences to the families of the victims and his wishes for a speedy recovery to the wounded.

Rabin Meets Weinberger, Comments on Relations

TA151714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has arrived in Israel and was greeted at Ben-Gurion Airport by the defense minister, the director general of the Defense Ministry, IDF major generals, and the U.S. ambassador. Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that the visit indicates the strengthening of relations between Israel and the United States. The visitor will tour the Defense Ministry tomorrow morning, and will confer with a senior defense establishment team. He will then meet with the prime minister and tour the Ramon airfield, built by the Americans.

Peres To Pay Official Visit to France 10 Dec

TA160541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] Prime minister Shim'on Peres will hold two meetings with French President Francois Mitterrand during a 2-day visit to France beginning 10 December. Details of the visit have been concluded through contacts between the prime minister's office and the presidential palace in Paris.

Lahd Urges End to Public Discussion of Massacre

TA121216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] The commander of the army of southern Lebanon, General Lahd, is contemplating the notion of granting clemency to the

Druze who perpetrated the massacre in the Shi'ite village of Suhmur. Based on Lahd's proposal, the seven Druze still under arrest would be tried according to Lebanese jurisprudence and would then be expelled from the army and sentenced to 90 days imprisonment.

In the reconciliation ceremony held at Gen Lahd's home today, the leaders of the villages of Suhmur and Hasbayya called for restoring calm in the area and left the decision regarding the fate of the arrested Druze to the commander of the army of southern Lebanon.

In an interview with our correspondent Hayim Hecht, Gen Lahd urged Israeli politicians and media to stop discussing the massacre in Suhmur because, as he phrased it, this is his own private concern. You do not understand our customs and our way of life, he said, and punishing the culprits would not solve anything.

Three Reservists Sentenced for Refusal to Serve

TA140821 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Oct 84 p 2

[Text] At the end of last week three reservists were sentenced to terms in jail of 28 to 35 days for their refusal to serve in Lebanon. This has been reported by the There Is A Limit Movement spokesman.

The number of soldiers sentenced to jail on this count has thus reached 137.

The three are: Corporal Erez Ziz, from Kibbutz Gesher, Sergeant Shay Rimon from Tel Aviv, and Corporal Adam Keller from Tel Aviv.

IDF Crosses Al-Awwali Searching for 'Terrorists'

TA141716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] An IDF unit today crossed the Al-Awwali River to the north, heading toward the Al-Kharrub area. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the mission assigned to the unit was to carry out searches and find out why the Druze, who control the area, are not fulfilling their agreement with the IDF to prevent terrorists from penetrating from the Ash-Shuf area in the vicinity of the Al-Awwali River. The IDF unit included tanks andarmored personnel carriers. It safely returned to the area controlled by the IDF this evening.

Throughout the day, IDF soldiers continued to comb the area near the Al-Awwali River where a terrorist clash occurred over the weekend in which an IDF soldier was killed. After the clash, large quantities of warfare materiel were found on the scene.

The commander of the Northern Command, Major General Ori Or, today banned journalists from reaching the scene of the incident and did not offer any reasons for the ban.

Irish Official Criticizes Army of Southern Lebanon

TA151107 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1027 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 15 Oct (ITIM) — It is my personal opinion that General Lahd's army in southern Lebanon should be disbanded or its units incorporated into the official army of the Government of Lebanon. But, as loyal members of the United Nations, we will leave our units in UNIFIL even if we are not pleased with the further stay of General Lahd's units in southern Lebanon. This was said by Irish Defense Minister Patrick Cooney, who this morning concluded a private visit of several days to Israel, as part of his tours and meetings with units of the Irish Army in the Middle East.

In a talk with the ITIM correspondent, Mr Cooney said he had visited Irish Army units in southern Lebanon, met with Irish observers in Beirut, Damascus, and Cairo, and met with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on Sunday. On his talk with Mr Rabin, the visiting minister said they had discussed the situation in Lebanon, including the IDF stay in the area and problems concerning its evacuation. "Mr Rabin indicated that Israel wants to evacuate its units from Lebanon peacefully and expects a UN force to take over those areas where the IDF is presently positioned. Mr Rabin also confirmed that Israel is convinced that the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has a role in that country," Mr Cooney said.

He later expressed his views on the matter of the ASL and recalled that "such an unofficial army has no place in southern Lebanon and should be disbanded. The incorporation of Lahd's units into the official Lebanese Army is a matter for the Lebanese authorities and I do not know the Lebanese Government's views. I do not think the ASL is making any contribution whatsoever to reinforcing the UNIFIL units in the area," the visiting minister concluded. He added that when he arrived in the Irish capital he would report to his government about his findings on his current tour of the area.

The minister was accompanied by Irish Chief of Staff Gerald O'Sullivan, who met here with Chief of Staff Moshe Levi and visited several IDF bases. A representative of the Foreign Ministry and a senior IDF officer saw the minister and chief of staff off at the airport.

Lahd on Army Assuming Control in 6 to 9 Months

TA151728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] General Antoine Lahd, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon, believes that his army will be able to take control over all of southern Lebanon within 6 to 9 months, allowing the IDF to withdraw. However, in handling outside hostile elements, his army will require IDF assistance in the future as well. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Gen Lahd said this at a meeting with the families of IDF officers serving in the liaison unit with Lebanon. The commander of the liaison unit, Brigadier General Ilia, said that contacts with the Shi'ite population of southern Lebanon are continuing. The Shi'ites will not be lovers of Zion, Ilia said, but considerations of survivability lead them to cooperate with Israel.

Lahd Army Preferred Over UNIFIL Troops on Border
TA160536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Binyamin Netanyahu, has said that Israel will object to stationing UN or Lebanese Army troops on its border after the IDF pulls out. In his opinion, the army of southern Lebanon should be allowed to hold positions in that area because it is capable of securing the well-being of the region.

In a meeting with journalists at UN headquarters in New York, Ambassador Netanyahu said that UNIFIL may be stationed in a buffer zone between Israel and Syria in the Al-Biqa' valley. We do not want to withdraw and enable the Syrians to approach our border, Netanyahu said.

RPG Fired at Home of Civil Guard Commander
TA160638 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] An RPG shell was fired last night at the home of the commander of the civil guards in the village of Habbush near Al-Nabatiyah. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that searches uncovered another shell ready to be fired near the house. The terrorist gangs operating in southern Lebanon have received instructions from Beirut and Damascus to carry out attacks against the army of southern Lebanon and the civil guards sponsored by the IDF.

Hebron Under Curfew During Torah Festivities
TA150722 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Oct 84 p 2

[Text] The IDF has been instructed to close off the market area in Hebron on Thursday and to impose curfew on most parts of the town, to enable the Accused Terrorists' Defence Committee to hold its second Haqafot [festivities marking celebration of the Torah] in the centre of town, MK Ran Kohen (Citizens Rights Movement) said yesterday.

Kohen, who asked the Defence Ministry to stop the committee from holding the Haqafot in Hebron, said that the committee intended to turn the Simhat Torah ceremony into a solidarity rally with the accused terrorists.

The Defence Ministry spokesman told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that the ministry would investigate the matter.

Rabin Rejects Cancellation of Settlers' Protest
TA151258 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaz Rabin has rejected the request from the Peace Now Movement to cancel the demonstration planned by Jewish settlers in Hebron in support of the Jewish underground suspects. The settlers reportedly plan a procession around the town after the Simchat Torah [Torah Rejoicing] holiday and there were reports that the Arab market would be closed for the occasion and that Arabs had been ordered to clean the streets and sidewalks. Rabin said there are precedents for the post-Simchat Torah procession and the settlers have been warned not to provoke the Arab population. The procession would be confined to a small area around Bet Hadassah, Rabin said.

Sharon, MK's Support Settlement in Nabulus
TA151255 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Oct 84 p 11

[Roni Shaqed report]

[Text] The tabernacle erected in Joseph's Tomb by settlers who are members of the "Nabulus" nucleus was visited yesterday by hundreds of settlement supporters, especially those who came to encourage the members of the nucleus in their struggle in Nabulus. During their visit, several hundred people signed a petition calling for the establishment of a Jewish settlement in the city.

Knesset Member [MK] Dov Shilansky, while in the settlers' tabernacle yesterday, pronounced himself a member of the "Nabulus" nucleus. "I have heard of Nabulus as an Israeli city even before I heard of Tel Aviv," Shilansky said.

Trade and Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon visited the tabernacle around noon and held a lengthy conversation with the nucleus members. "It is necessary to exert pressure and fight for the right to settle anywhere in Israel, and naturally in Nabulus as well," Sharon said.

Among the visitors were Tehiya Knesset Members Eli'ezer Wald man and Rabbi Gershon Shafat, and also Rabbi Kahane.

Guard on Al-Shak'ah Residence Reinstituted
TA131729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] The Judaea and Samaria Military Government has reinstituted a round-the-clock guard at the home of deposed Nabulus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'ah. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that in the past the Military Government explained that this was necessary because his life must be guarded, but Al-Shak'ah has complained that the guards were disturbing him, annoying his family, and were a nuisance to his visitors.

Bi'r Zayt Solidarity Committee Spokesman Detained
TA151150 TEL Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Oct 84 p 3

[Text] (ITIM) — The spokesman of the Committee for Solidarity with Bi'r Zayt University, Gid'on (Spiro), was questioned at the Bethlehem police station yesterday, following a complaint filed against him by the military governor of the city, Lieutenant Colonel Hayim Aviv.

(Spiro) participated in the demonstration for solidarity with the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp near its entrance, on the main road

connecting Bethlehem and Hebron. He and 15 others distributed pamphlets condemning the "settlers and the conquest authorities." IDF and border police forces arrived at the site and requested that the demonstrators disperse, but the latter refused, claiming that the demonstration was legal. (Spiro) was meanwhile taken to the police station, where the governor filed a complaint against him, accusing him of spewing insults, shouting catcalls, and calling the IDF an army of conquest.

During the interrogation, (Spiro) denied having insulted an officer. After having a criminal file opened on him and being fingerprinted, (Spiro) was released on bail. He may have to stand trial.

Bethlehem Mayor Protests Settlers' Patrols

TA151152 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Oct 84 p 11

[Text] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj sent a cable to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin calling on him to stop the settlers' patrol of the Jerusalem-Hebron road in the vicinity of the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp.

"If such patrols are necessary, they should be entrusted to the Army and not the settlers, who are only creating tension between themselves and the local population," Frayj wrote to Rabin.

Yesterday afternoon, activists of the Committee for Solidarity with Bi'r Zayt University staged a small demonstration in front of the camp, protesting the settlers' patrols. They distributed pamphlets, written in Hebrew and Arabic, in which they warned the government against "the settlers taking the law into their own hands by means of weapons." The pamphlet called on the government to oppose the settlers by preventing a pogrom in the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, led by Qiryat Arba' residents.

Underground Group Working From NRP Branches

TA140958 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Oct 84 p 1

[Tova Tzimuqi report]

[Text] The La'or headquarters for the Jewish underground detainees has been working from the National Religious Party [NRP] branches in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv over the last 2 weeks.

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that senior NRP leaders have decided to support the La'or members in order to bring more Gush Emunim elements back to the NRP.

La'or members yesterday told *DAVAR* that after working from the Gush Emunim headquarters and sometimes being treated with contempt by Gush Emunim members, they decided to return to their real home, the NRP. They said that they were welcomed with open arms. The chairman of the committee for the detainees, Yehuda Hazani, one of the founders of Gush Emunim, has recently resumed his activities for Gush Emunim, and one of his first actions was renewing ties with the NRP leadership.

Reacting to this, Me'ir Indor, one of the La'or leaders, yesterday said that most families of the Jewish underground detainees belong to the Mizrahi Histadrut, and do not see any reason why that body should not help them in their actions for the detainees. He said that the NRP has always been a fortress of the national goals and there has never been an official severance between the Gush Emunim members and the NRP members.

It should be stressed that some of the La'or activists are Kahane's men.

West Bank College Strike Caused by High Tuition

TA141136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] Studies at Bi'r Zayt University have been struck for a week as a result of a difference over tuition fees between the directors of the institute and the students. The university is in financial difficulty because of a halting of funds from Arab states and a simultaneous rise in the cost of tuition. Students are refusing to pay the increase and the academic year has not got underway as yet.

West Bank Installation Deters Stone Throwing

TA150748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0740 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Eight hundred residents of the territories were found guilty of throwing stones after being interrogated in the (Farah) installation near Nabulus. This has been stated by the commander of the Central Command, Amnon Shahaq. He said this installation is very efficient in preventing attacks against Jewish traffic in Judaea and Samaria.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that in Major General Shahaq's opinion, this installation has created a feeling of unease among residents of the territories, because it has become clear to them that even people who threw stones many months previously can be traced.

Arab Unemployment Increasing in North

TA150817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The state of employment in the Arab villages in northern Israel is worsening. According to statistics from the Employment Service, the number of people looking for work in the Nazareth and Shefar'am areas totals 1,500, but the Histadrut representatives in these areas have reported to our correspondent Yo'el Dar that the figure is actually much higher.

They added that over the past few weeks many Arab workers have been dismissed from industrial plants and the Employment Service cannot offer them other places of employment. They stressed that in the past only Arab workers employed in construction work suffered from the recession, but unemployment is now also harming industrial workers.

Court Bans Demolition of Houses in Gaza Camp

TA151814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The High Court of Justice has issued an interim order banning the demolition of two houses in the Jabalyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that the appellants argue that there were plans to demolish the two houses for political reasons. Our correspondent points out that the High Court of Justice has issued similar orders following two other appeals by inhabitants of Jabalyah.

West Bank Delegation to U.S. for Economy Talks

TA160949 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 16 Oct 84 p 10

[Roni Shaqed report]

[Text] At the invitation of U.S. businessmen and in coordination with the U.S. Administration, five West Bank personalities departed for the United States a few days ago to report on the socioeconomic situation in the territories and find ways to improve it. The delegation from the territories includes two physicians — one of whom, Dr Salah Bustani, is the chairman of the doctors association in the West bank — two deans of universities in the territories, and a Nabulus businessman.

The Americans also invited Dr Mustafa al-Natshah, the former mayor of Hebron who was deposed after the murder of the late yeshiva student Aharon Gross, but the military government did not authorize his trip.

New Proposals for Territories Analyzed

TA121200 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Oct 84 p 9

[Yehuda Litani commentary: "A Time Bomb in the Territories"]

[Text] Every few years, since 1967, those people in the Defense Ministry responsible for the affairs of the territories take emergency plans for the unemployment question out of their desks. There are detailed plans for initiated work: paving roads, planting forests, and so on. However, to date the Defense Ministry staff has not needed these plans. Now, once again, faced with the economic crisis within our walls, the plans have been taken out of the drawers and updated. But this time, so it seems, the plans will have to be implemented.

While the defense minister publicly declares that there are plans to "improve and foster the quality of life of the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District," a double economic crisis threatens the inhabitants of the territories: both in Israel and in the oil states, where many of the inhabitants of the territories find their income. Despite Yitzhaq Rabin's public statements and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' talks on this matter in Washington, the crisis is not only threatening the inhabitants' current standard of living, but could deteriorate into a dangerous situation.

There is a difference between the terms "quality of life" and "standard of living," and what the defense minister meant by his remarks was not only the economic situation, but also other spheres, such as decreasing the burden of censorship of books and papers published in the territories and East Jerusalem, the appointment of Arab mayors instead of the Jews who are now filling these posts in several large towns in the West Bank, the Civilian Administration's employment of Arab officials in the territories, and so on. The defense minister's intention, when using the term "quality of life," is, in fact, to improve the atmosphere between rulers and ruled, which has to date been oppressive. This is a demonstration of goodwill and an announcement of an intention to turn over a new leaf between the Israeli Administration and the inhabitants of the territories.

Indeed, what will apparently upset the inhabitants more than the quality of life, for the moment, will be their standard of living. More than 100,000 workers who live in the territories are employed in Israel. Most of them are employed in jobs that Israelis began to despise after the 6-Day war: construction, factory work, maintenance, and services. Little by little, the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip villages have begun to abandon agricultural work and move into the centers of Jewish population for work that is more profitable and, from their viewpoint, perhaps less exhausting. After 17 years of Israeli rule over the territories, we have already become accustomed to seeing almost only Arabs employed at hard labor.

Last year, with the acceleration of the war between Iran and Iraq, the economic crisis worsened in the oil states — to which tens of thousands of inhabitants of the territories go every year to find more profitable work than is the norm in the West Bank or Gaza Strip. Directions are beginning to change: instead of a large stream of people going to those states, a stream of people coming into the territories from the oil states has been noted — to the point that the number of people leaving and those entering over the bridges is now equal, with an emerging trend toward more people coming in.

Almost the only possibility for an inhabitant of the territories to escape from the economic crisis in Israel is no longer open to him. Employment in the oil states, with temporary emigration from the area for a period of 1, 2, or 3 years, was quite normal in the West Bank, even during the Jordanian period. The father of the family would send the lion's share of his salary to his family in the West Bank every year, and every few months he would visit his family's place of residence for a few days' holiday. In Ramallah, whose summer climate is cool and comfortable, special places of entertainment were opened for the Palestinian summer visitors, who prefer to spend their money "at home" and not in the desert conditions of Abu Dhabi or Kuwait.

The voices of Jewish workers who have been dismissed are already being heard among the first dismissals emerging in the Israeli economy: Why were the Arab workers not dismissed first? With the increase in unemployment in Israel, this demand will be heard much more clearly and unambiguously. However, the Arab workers who will be thrown out of plants and places of employment in Israel have nowhere to go. At the beginning and maybe also in the middle of the 1970's these workers could have been told to return to their previous agricultural work. But a

considerable number of the Arab workers in Israel went immediately after the conclusion of their studies to work in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, or Beersheba, or in the fields of the Jewish settlements in the Lakhish district, or paving new roads in the West Bank. Some of the fields which had previously been used for agriculture have been abandoned. Some of them have been transferred to the ownership of the Government of Israel, either through requisitioning or simply by declaring them state land.

Only a few thousand of the workers being dismissed will, perhaps, be able to find agricultural work in the West Bank and these, too, will be under great pressure. For 17 years deliberate Israeli policy has caused a standardization of the economies of the territories and Israel. In 1948-1967 the Jordanian Government gave a clear preference to the East Bank rather than to the West Bank. The West Bank's economic infrastructure is sparse and that of the Gaza Strip is even more so. The Jordanians at least treated the West Bank as an integral part of the Kingdom, while the Egyptians treated the Gaza Strip as conquered territory, exactly as it is now under Israeli rule — with a military government.

Israel's defense leaders know very well the significance of heavy unemployment among inhabitants of the territories: an increase in political ferment and, more than that, an increase in terrorist activities against Israeli targets. And, if not out of love for Ishmael, then at least because of this fear, they will do all they can to prevent large pockets of unemployment among the Arab population centers in the territories.

The various governments of Israel have carried on the previous Jordanian policy of not developing the economic infrastructure the West Bank. Similar to the situation of the Jordanian period, almost no large plants and independent sources of employment were established in the West Bank. The same thing happened during Israel's period. King 'Abdallah and his grandson, King Husayn, after him, did this for mainly political reasons: the fear of creating a Palestinian focus capable of being independent of the center of power in the East Bank. The Israelis continued this for similar reasons (political: the fear of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state) as well as for purely economic reasons: the appetite of economic plants and concerns in Israel for new markets having almost no competition by other elements.

Now, in this situation of a twilight zone between inflation and stagflation, the minister responsible for Israel's policy in the territories, Yitzhaq Rabin, announces steps for the improvement and fostering of the quality of life in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Even if the cement factory mentioned in the new framework of improvement and fostering is established, even if a branch of the "Arab bank" is established in Nabulus, even if the establishment of a large hospital in the Ramallah area is begun (all with investments by foreign elements or local Arabs, with no Israeli participation), these actions will not change by one iota the beginnings of mass unemployment among the inhabitants of the territories.

The various Governments of Israel have always worked on the assumption that the relative economic welfare would continue and that Uncle Sam would not turn off the tap. Dollars would continue to flow from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean and rials and dinars would go on flowing over the bridges to the inhabitants of the territories, whose relatives are employed in the oil states. Now the inhabitants of the territories are facing the beginning of a double crisis: There is no suitable economic infrastructure in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to absorb them.

Political considerations, so we are now learning, are not necessarily also the right economic considerations. Although we wanted to avoid the establishment of an economic infrastructure — factories and other independent sources of employment in the territories — for fear this would set up the infrastructure for a Palestinian state, we have now brought upon ourselves the burden of maintaining and providing for thousands of families in the territories. Speaking about the current economic situation, a Nabulus businessman told me a well-known Arab proverb (originating in a Talmudic tale). It refers to an old man whose wife was elderly and decided to take a young girl as a second wife. The older one, Hana, used to pluck out of his beard all the black hairs remaining in it, while the young one, Mana, used to pluck out all the white hairs. Between Hana and Mana, he was left with no beard. And the moral, that Nabulus resident added, is clear: Between Jordan and the oil states and Israel, we have been left without genuine economic assets. The only thing we have to offer is our ability to work. Now there is no work, or there will soon be no work in Israel, and the situation in the oil states is worsening and soon we will be left without a beard.

Well, pleasant statements by the defense minister are one thing and reality is another. It is just on the eve of an economic crisis that a clear decision must be made: If the economy of the territories really is part of Israel's economy and if the state of creeping annexation becomes absolute, the fate of the inhabitants of the territories will be the same as that of the Jewish workers, since both groups are in the same boat. However, if the fate of the workers from the territories is different and they must be the first to be dismissed from their jobs — and this necessarily entails a security risk for the distant, and perhaps also near, future — immediate steps should be taken concerning the serious development of an economic infrastructure for the territories even if this entails the risk (or the chance, depending on one's political viewpoint) of the creation of an infrastructure for an independent Palestinian state or a separate district. Such small things as a single cement factory in Hebron or a bank branch in Nabulus are no longer satisfying. A perpetuation of the current situation, even if makeshift jobs are unearthed for the unemployed — means a continuation of the unjustified complacency in view of the timebomb whose ticking is getting louder.

Consumer Price Index Rises Record 21.4 Percent

TA151524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Consumer Price Index rose by 21.4 percent in September. This is the highest rise recorded in one month since the establishment of the State of Israel. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the rise covers all types of consumer products. The price of food rose by 23.2 percent; the price of fruit and vegetables rose by 28.1 percent. The Consumer Price Index has risen by a record 450 percent in the last 12 months.

The Wholesale Price Index rose by only 19.7 percent but it does not reflect the full extent of the price hikes, because manufacturers raised their prices significantly above the Consumer Price Index rise recorded at the end of September. In the wake of this recent rise, salaried employees will receive a cost of living increment of 17.1 percent. The Finance Ministry says that the rise in the Consumer Price Index was to have been expected and that it is impossible to tackle inflation as long as there is no general agreement to absorb and reduce price hikes by all the concerned elements.

Ministry Fails To Improve Balance of Payments

TA150907 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Oct 84 p 1

[Avi Temkin report]

[Text] The country's current account deficit decreased by nearly $100 million during the first half of the year, as compared to January-June 1983 despite Treasury efforts in recent months to improve the balance of payments situation.

According to figures released yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics [CBS], Israel's overall excess of imports over exports, including services, fell some $100 million to some $2.4 billion, during the first half of the year. This figure is considerably below the Treasury target. The ministry had planned at the end of 1983 a reduction in the deficit level for this year.

The CBS figures showed that when military equipment imports are excluded, the improvement in the deficit was somewhat higher, some $330 million. The figures showed that while exports of goods and services rose by some $330 million, civilian imports remained stable at the same level they reached during the first half of last year. The figures also showed that in the second quarter of the year the deficit totalled some $1.2 billion, more or less the same sum registered during the first three months of 1984.

Military imports for the first half of the year totalled some $635 million. For the second quarter of the year these imports totalled $285 million compared to $249 million in the same period.

Finance Ministry Not Notified of Debt Moratorium

TA150658 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Senior economic sources fear that the 6-month moratorium on Israel's debts to the United States will be interpreted by the world as confirmation that Israel is in a situation so serious that it could be a financial risk. Israel will now have to struggle to explain to the world that the support lent by the United States is of greater significance than the postponement of repayment of some debts for a limited period. Such postponements have been imposed in the past by bankrupt countries in Latin America and the Eastern bloc. Our correspondent points out that the postponement of debt repayment will permit Israel, over the next 5 months, to deal with curbing inflation without fearing that the steps to be taken will damage the balance of payments.

Last night U.S. sources told our Washington correspondent that the initiative for the moratorium came from the U.S. Administration during Peres' visit to the United States. From an investigation carried out by our economic correspondent Gadi Sukenik, it emerges that Shim'on Peres apparently did not incorporate even his senior ministers in the report on the moratorium. Finance Ministry staff also claim to have known nothing of this move.

Arabic Daily on Jordanian-Egyptian Relations

JN151925 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 12 Oct 84 p 1

[Editorial: "The New Birth"]

[Text] A joint Jordanian-Egyptian statement was issued yesterday at the end of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Jordan. There is no need to repeat the contents of this statement, which expresses the full agreement between the two sides regarding the Arab and international issues. This agreement is also aimed at promoting cooperation and coordination in all fields.

What concerns us here is to see the Arab spirit entering the giant Egyptian body. The statement does not contain any word referring to unilateral agreement or settlements with Israel or even to autonomy for the Palestinians according to the appendices of the Camp David accords. The statement explains Egypt's position very clearly. The Jordanian and Egyptian sides stressed the need to confront the difficulties through which the Palestine question is passing. They also stressed the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

The statement is considered a radical turning point in Egypt's policies. According to the Camp David accords, Egypt's position toward the Palestine question denied the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Through these accords, Egypt also aspired to autonomy. Thus, there is a very big difference between the Camp David accords and the joint Jordanian-Egyptian statement.

By announcing its belief in the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, Egypt has abandoned the appendices of the Camp David accords regarding the Palestine question, and straightened out matters concerning the Palestinian people's just cause. The Palestinian people's right to self-determination means allowing the Palestinian to choose their own political destiny and their own representatives. It also means lifting the trusteeship imposed on them by the Arabs. Although this expression is casually mentioned in the statement, it means that there is a historic new Egyptian position toward the Palestinian question, the PLO, and the Palestinian people.

This new Egyptian position has proved that Jordan's decision to restore its relations with Egypt has restored the original Arab spirit to Egypt. The Palestinian people are now reaping the first fruits of the Jordanian step because it seems that Egypt has adopted Jordan's pan-Arab positions toward Palestine.

Jordanian Military Modernization Analyzed

TA151738 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The reorganization process in the Jordanian Army is gradually being completed. Our correspondent Gay Zohar reports that over the last 7 years the Jordanian Army has grown in size, but more importantly, has developed a modern military strategy and has replaced its equipment. Here is his report:

The Jordanian Army has been undergoing an intensive process of reorganization since 1977. A few major trends can be discerned in this process, such as mechanizing the army. Thus, for example, the Jordanian Artillery Corps is trying to become more mobile and to use more modern equipment. Another trend is to standardize the training program at all levels. A Palestine Liberation Army unit is also stationed in Jordan. In the next few days, in light of the good relations between 'Arafat and Husayn, this brigade might be reinforced by another battalion. In any case, the brigade's status is still inferior to that of the other brigades.

Regarding the Jordanian-Israeli border, Amnon Shahaq, the commander of the Central Command, said today that the impression is that our neighbors to the east are trying to prevent terrorist activity from Jordanian territory, although this is not always successful. It also looks like the Jordanians are suffering from hostile terrorist activity from the Syrian border as well, since Syria is certainly not overjoyed with the renewed ties between King Husayn and Egypt.

Arabic Broadcast on Al-Asad's Moscow Visit

JN151617 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left for Moscow today. It has been said that this visit is taking place at the urgent request of Syria and that it is very important in view of Eastern bloc political circles. Although it is natural for two countries linked by a friendship and cooperation agreement to exchange visits and hold consultations, the importance of each visit and consultation is defined by their circumstances and reasons as well as by the aspirations and objectives sought. If we view President al-Asad's current visit to Moscow on this basis, it will become clear that it is based on important circumstances and developments which are related in one way or another to the situation in Syria and Syria's stands toward the issues in the region.

On the domestic level, Syria witnessed troubling situations in the past year. There was a dispute on who would succeed the president after his illness which rendered him incapable of work for some months. The economic situation deteriorated and the people still find it difficult to obtain the basic food supplies.

On the foreign level, Damascus' stands and policy aggravated its isolation in the Arab and international arenas. In addition to the responsibilities it shoulders through its military and political interference in Lebanon, Syria is in a severe dispute with Iraq in view of its support for Iran in the Gulf war; it is in dispute with Jordan which stands at the side of Iraq; and it is in a continuous dispute with Egypt because of Egypt's peaceful policy and its peace agreement with Israel. Syria is also waging a violent dispute against the 'Arafatist groups in the Palestinian organizations, and it has known differences with Morocco in view of the latter's Arab policy and its efforts which brought Egypt back to the IOC. Syria even has secret differences with its ally Al-Qadhdhafi, because he entered into a union with Morocco. Syria is against the United States and against every country which aims at settling the conflict in the Middle East in a way that is contrary to its objectives.

Perhaps what has aroused the Syrian leadership's rage and resentment and made it lose its mind was Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Jordan after Jordan had decided to restore its complete relations with Egypt. It is not unlikely that this development is one of the main reasons that made the Syrian president visit Moscow.

In all these issues which Syria is currently facing, the USSR adopts its own stands which stem from its interests and objectives. These stands are not necessarily in agreement with the Syrian stands, and sometimes are even contrary to them — as in the case of the Gulf war, the Syrian-Palestinian crisis, and even the Syrian interference in Lebanon.

Naturally, President al-Asad does not expect his hosts to change their policies and stands in accordance with his desires. He may not be pleased with this situation. However, Syria's policy has given the Syrian president limited options. In his current situation he should listen to the Soviets. He should become acquainted with their ideas and trends so as to define his steps toward the expected developments in the future in Lebanon and toward the initiatives which may be presented to settle the disputes in the region peacefully.

Regardless of the Syrian media's praise of the USSR, its friendship with Syria, and its support for Arab issues, the clear and firm fact is the more Syria increases its cooperation with the Soviets the more it loses the freedom to act and the independence to adopt decisions that suit it and stem from its interests.

Arabic Broadcast Urges Talks, Not Conferences

JN121654 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 12 Oct 84

["Today's commentary"]

[Text] Amid statements and reports on the Middle East, the idea has emerged of holding an international conference under United Nations auspices with the participation of concerned countries in order to discuss the Arab- Israeli conflict. Leading those who support this idea is the USSR, which still calls for its implementation. The USSR formed a chorus of Arab voices in order to propagate the idea. Moscow reiterated its support for the idea in the joint statement the USSR and Algeria issued the day before yesterday following a CPSU delegation's official visit to Algeria.

Some people believe that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's expected visit to Moscow next week is related to the idea of the

international conference, to both countries' affairs, and to what has been said about Damascus' resentment of Moscow's sympathy with Yasir 'Arafat through 'Arafat's meeting in the GDR with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko. Those people base their belief on Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Jordan after the two countries resumed diplomatic relations. The Syrian president fears that rapprochement between Cairo and Amman, as well as what may follow regarding some other Arab countries, would isolate Syria in the Arab world. The Syrian president also fears that Jordan and Egypt may consider either new or old Middle East initiatives in light of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's announcement that his 2 and 1/2 year old plan still exists. This is in addition to the internal situation [in Syria] and the situation in Lebanon.

The Kremlin has the same fears, too. It reportedly cautioned King Husayn about adopting the Reagan plan, warning him of bad consequences. Despite the fact that the Jordanian monarch rejected the U.S. plan in his recent statements, it is not unlikely that the Kremlin leaders will renew their old warning if and when King Husayn visits Moscow within the next few weeks to ask for arms. However, the joint statement issued after President Mubarak's visit to Jordan unexpectedly (?ignores) the idea of an international conference. Some observers believe that this was the result both of continuous U.S. opposition to this idea and of Israeli opposition. This is in addition to the fact that France and the UK expressed their reservations about this idea and that this idea has always been considered immature.

Israel does not reject the idea of an international conference because it is against any peaceful settlements, but because previous efforts have proven the sterility of such conferences. These conferences have also proven another fact: that the only way to achieve a positive result is through direct negotiations between Israel and any Arab country. On all previous occasions, conferences were an arena of competition for radicalism and confrontation, both against Israel and among Arab countries themselves.

Developments have shown that the USSR's idea of holding an international conference is aimed at entering any talks on the Arab-Israeli conflict —not in the interest of the region, but in order to serve its interests in its race with the United States, and in order to keep the state of no war and no peace in the region. It is an important method which will allow it to continue hunting Arab countries in the troubled Middle East waters. Otherwise, the USSR would not have kept its diplomatic relations with Israel severed, something which proves how it views Israel.

No Comment on Reported Chinese Arms Deal

TA141128 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1027 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] A diplomat of the Chinese Embassy in London has denied the news about an arms deal between Israel and China, worth hundreds of millions of pound sterling. The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem refuses to comment on the report carried by *THE SUNDAY TIMES* in London this morning. The Foreign Ministry spokesman told our correspondent Moshe Hakohen: We do not have to comment on each article appearing in the press.

Bulgaria Interested in Agricultural Exchanges

TA151121 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Oct 84 p 2

[Aharon Pri'el report]

[Text] The leaders of the Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and agricultural organizations in that country want to arrange commercial ties and exchanges of scientific delegations with the Israeli agricultural establishment, including Israeli exports of input, knowhow, and the purchase of sheep and cattle to improve dairy herds in Bulgaria.

A senior official from the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture was invited for an official visit by the Bulgarian Government to provide professional clarification on exporting sheep from Israel to Bulgaria. This follows the success of the first shipment 7 years ago of hundreds of sheep which adjusted to Bulgarian conditions and are now the finest and highest milk-producing stock in that country.

Sheep's milk is of prime importance in Bulgaria because of the developed and prestigious yogurt and cheese industries, the products of which are exported to various countries.

In his talks with leaders of the Bulgarian agricultural establishments, the Israeli representative was asked to promote the deepening of bilateral commercial ties and exchanges of technological knowhow in all fields of agriculture upon his return to Israel.

RAKAH's Wilner Pays Visit to Bulgaria

TA132051 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] RAKAH Secretary General Me'ir Wilner believes that Shim'on Peres' government is the most reactionary government in the history of Israel. He was speaking in Sofia at a meeting with Bulgarian correspondents. Wilner met with Bulgarian leader Zhivkov in Sofia, and the two proposed convening an international peace conference with the participation of the Soviet Union and the PLO. They also condemned what they called U.S. and Israeli aggression in the Middle East.

Briefs

Arab Affairs Adviser Appointment — Colonel Shalom Harari today was appointed Arab affairs adviser in the office of the coordinator of activities in the territories. [Text] [*Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 12 Oct 84 TA*]

Media Adviser Chosen — Prime Minister Peres has named young diplomat Uri Savir as his media adviser. Savir, currently consul for information at the New York Consulate, will take up his duties in Jerusalem immediately. [Excerpt] [*Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Oct 84 p 2 TA*]

Tourism Statistics — More tourists came to Israel last month than in any previous September, but the number of tourists from Arab countries was down by nearly a third in comparison with last year, the Tourism Ministry announced yesterday. Last month 106,700 foreign tourists arrived here, 4 percent more than September 1983. Some 11,800 tourists came from Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon last month, 31 percent less than the same month last year. Tourists from Lebanon totalled 3,100, compared to 8,100 last September. Some 3,600 tourists came via Egypt last month, and 5,100 from Jordan. [Text] [*Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Oct p 3 TA*]

LIBYA

Armed Forces Chief Meets Palestinian Figures

LD152229 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, received today brothers Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], member of the new revolutionary command in Fatah; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-General Command; and Dr Samir Ghashah, secretary general of the Palestine Popular Struggle Front.

MOROCCO

Briefs

New Speaker Elected — Ahmed Osman was elected speaker of the Chamber of Representatives during the session held this evening. [Excerpt][*Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Oct 84 LD*]

SUDAN

Numayri To Undergo Surgery in Cairo Hospital

JN151752 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Oct (SUNA) — Dr 'Abd al-Salam Salih 'Isa, minister of health and member of the delegation accompanying the president of the Republic on his current visit to Egypt, has announced that President Numayri will undergo surgery to remove a bone protrusion from his right foot at Al-Ma'adi Hospital in Cairo. The president will spend about 2 days at the hospital after which he will return home.

Briefs

Outgoing PRC Ambassador — Khartoum, 13 Oct (SUNA) — First Vice President retired Major General 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib received here today PRC Ambassador to Khartoum Song Hanyi at the end of his term of office. The first vice president praised the ambassador's efforts to bolster relations between Sudan and the PRC and wished him success in his new appointment. [Text][*Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 13 Oct 84 JN*]

Agriculture Agreement With Japan — His Excellency President Numayri has issued a republican decree appointing Mr Salah Muhammad Nur al-Din member of the Nile Valley Parliament. At the same time the president of the Republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, has issued a republican decree approving the grant agreement of 1983 between the Governments of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and Japan for increasing food production, which was signed in Khartoum on 10 October, 1984. It is worth the equivalent of 4 million U.S. dollars. The grant will be used for the purchasing and transporting of agricultural equipment and chemicals for conventional agriculture projects in the Democratic Republic of Sudan. [Text][*Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Oct EA*]

TUNISIA

OAU's Onu Arrives in Tunis, Sees Essebsi

LD160554 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Acting OAU Secretary General Peter Onu arrived in Tunis this evening on a visit to Tunisia. He was welcomed at Tunis International Airport by Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and the Tunisian permanent delegate at (?OAU) [words indistinct].

Mr Peter Onu told newsmen that he has come to Tunisia to pay a courtesy visit to the foreign minister and also to hold consultations with the Tunisian Government on all problems facing the OAU.

He said he would also like to learn from the wisdom of President Habib Bourguiba, the doyen of African presidents, and listen to his recommendations for finding solutions to intricate problems experienced by the OAU.

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers: Communique Announces New Offensive

LD152343 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture issued a new statement yesterday which pointed out some of the preliminary details of the great Maghreb offensive the Saharan forces began last Saturday, during which they stormed four Moroccan positions southwest of Zag.

The statement pointed out that the fierce battles are continuing. The statement described the offensive as similar to the one the Saharan forces carried out in 1979 against (?El Guerat).

SOMALIA

President Departs for Official Visit to UAE

LD151632 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Mohamed Siad departed at 1300 this afternoon on an official visit to the United Arab Emirates.

Speaking to SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY and Radio Mogadishu reporters, Challe Siad said he would hold talks with the president of the UAE, Shaykh Zayid and would raise issues of major importance to the development of the interests of the two countries and peoples as well as international and Arab issues. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre added that the SDR and the UAE have a long-standing relationship based on cooperation in the political, economic, and technical fields, and therefore this visit will further deepen these relations.

Challe Siad called on the Somali people to seriously engage themselves in increasing production since Somalia is a rich country and only requires the proper use of its resources.

He also urged them to intensify their unity, strength, and thinking while warning them against anything that would hamper the development of the country and the people.

The President of the SDR Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and his delegation, which includes the minister in the presidency, Dr Abdullahi Ahmed Addou, and other officials, were given a warm send-off at the airport by the first vice-president of the SDR, Challe Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar; the second vice-president, Challe Husein Kulmie Afrah; Challe Brigadier General Ahmed Suleiman Abdalla, member of the Political Committee of the party's Central Committee and minister of interior; Challe Colonel Ahmed Mohamud Farah, member of the Political Committee of the party's Central Committee and minister of mineral and water resources; bureau chairmen; ministers; assistant ministers; and other government and party officials and the UAE's charge d'affaires.

TANZANIA

Mass Media Agreement With Mozambique Signed

EA130800 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Tanzania and Mozambique today signed an agreement of understanding to step up mass media cooperation between the two countries. The agreement was signed by the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Ndugu Anna Makinda, and the Mozambican information minister, Ndugu Jose Luis Cabaco. The agreement says Radio Tanzania, Radio Tanzania-Zanzibar, and Radio Mozambique have agreed to exchange cultural programmes, mainly music. Under the agreement, the Tanzanian News Agency — SHIHATA — and the MOZAMBIQUE INFORMATION AGENCY would station correspondents in each other's capital without either agency having to spend foreign exchange.

The agreement follows Ndugu Cabaco's 4-day official visit to Tanzania during which he visited Zanzibar and held talks with Ndugu Makinda.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Says Partners Understand Nation's Problems

AB140725 Paris AFP in French 1229 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 13 Oct (AFP)— Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko on Friday informed the Cabinet meeting that during his recent visits to the United States and Western Europe, his discussion partners showed "much understanding" toward his country's economic and financial difficulties.

The president, who is quoted in the official report of the meeting, recalled that the main objective of his visit was to "appeal for understanding and solidarity from Zaire's partners regarding its financial situation." Diplomatic and authorized Zairian sources agree to the fact that President Mobutu did not get any precise response or figures to his request for aid from the countries he visited. The same sources, however, state that there is the general desire to assist Zaire at this difficult period.

Mobutu To Tour Military Bases; Quell Army Unrest

AB131035 Paris AFP in English 0730 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Kinshasa, Oct 13 (AFP)— Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, just back from a lengthy trip abroad, will tour all the country's military bases starting next week, it was announced here Friday, fuelling reports of unrest in the Army through which Marshal Mobutu has ruled for the past 19 years. Among his stops will be Kolwezi, in the strategic mineral-rich Shaba Province; Kota-Koli, in Equatorial Province, where there are some 505 Chadian troops; and Kinshasa, where the Israeli-trained elite Presidential Guard is based.

Complaints about low pay were voiced by Army Chief of Staff General Singa Boyenge Mosambay last July to Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo, according to a reliable source here. The premier reportedly pointed to civilian complaints against soldiers trying to extort money and other items to compensate for their low salaries. But the general is said to have replied in a letter that "an empty stomach has no conscience."

Army Unrest 'Forcefully' Denied

AB131250 Paris AFP in English 1145 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Kinshasa, Oct 13 (AFP) — Zairian Information Minister Sakombi Inongo today "forcefully" denied press reports of unrest in the country's Army. The reports surfaced yesterday after the government announced that President Mobutu Sese Seko is to inspect all Zaire's military bases beginning next week.

"There is no unease (in the Army), there is nothing at all," Mr Sakombi told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here, adding that "the Zairean Army is united behind its leader, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko." According to a reliable source here, complaints about low pay in the Army were voiced by Army Chief of Staff General Singa Boyenge Mosambay last July to Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo.

MPR Executive Council Orders Troops Withdrawn From Chad

Chadian Support To Continue

AB121854 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Citizen Sakombi Inongo, state commissioner for information, reports on the ordinary monthly meeting of the MPR Executive Council on 12 October at Mont Ngaliema — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the Popular Movement of the Revolution, MPR, and president of the republic, chaired the ordinary monthly meeting of the Executive Council this Friday, 12 October 1984, at Mont Ngaliema. In an important speech to the Executive Council, the party head, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, gave the Executive Council a report on the outcome of his visit to Europe and America, which lasted more than 2 weeks.

After giving an economic report on his trip abroad, the head of state, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, continued his speech by giving political details. He informed the members of the Executive Council on his meeting with President Hissein Habre and with his French, Ivorian, and Gabonese counterparts on the situation in Chad following the Franco-Libyan accords. In this regard, the Executive Council decided upon a withdrawal of all Zairian troops presently in Chad. Zaire will nevertheless continue its military cooperation with that fraternal country, as has always been the case, by training Chadian forces.

Withdrawal To Start Soon

AB131055 Paris AFP in English 1043 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Text] Kinshasa, Oct 13 (AFP) — Zaire is to begin withdrawing its troop contigent from Chad "in eight to 10 days," Zairian information minister and government spokesman Sakombi Inongo told AFP here today. Mr Sakombi said there were 1,412 Zairian troops still in the troubled north-central African country, and that their withdrawal would be completed before that of the French and Libyan forces.

In June 1983, Zaire had sent 1,500 troops to support the Chadian Government of Hissein Habre, he said, adding that some 1,000 had been pulled out for financial reasons as Chadian troops were trained in Zaire to replace them. Five hundred Chadian commandos are currently undergoing military training at the Kota Koli camp in southern Zaire.

BURKINA

Communique Issued Following Abdelaziz Visit

AB152120 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Joint communique issued at end of visit of SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz to Burkina Faso on 15 October]

[Text] Joint communique: At the invitation of Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], president of the republic, and head of government, Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and SDAR president, paid an official visit to Burkina Faso on 14 and 15 October 1984. President Mohamed Abdelaziz and the important delegation accompanying him were given a brotherly and warm reception by the Burkinabe people.

During the talks which took place in an atmosphere of brotherhood, friendship, and mutual understanding, the two leaders made a broad review of bilateral and international issues. The two delegations expressed satisfaction with the perfect similarity of their views during these talks. On bilateral issues, the two presidents expressed satisfaction over the excellent relations existing between the two peoples and over the identity of the goals pursued by their two revolutions. They vigorously reiterated their firm determination to work to ensure that the SDAR people will recover their full sovereignty, as a result of the sacrifices made by the worthy Saharan sons during the heroic struggles which they continue to wage against the hordes of imperialist henchmen, namely Morocco's expansionist and hegemonistic forces. They also agreed to set up a common body for periodic consultations with a view to achieving the total independence and socioeconomic well-being of their respective peoples.

On the African front, the comrade president of Burkina Faso and the brother president of the SDAR expressed regrets over the many conflicts disturbing Africa. They expressed satisfaction over the revolutionary commitment of the Saharan and Burkinabe peoples to fight all evil forces so that the unity and cohesion of the continent will prevail.

On the SDAR-Morocco conflict, the two presidents strongly condemned Morocco's rejection of the peace plan unanimously adopted by the 19th OAU summit. They also denounced Morocco's intransigence as the only obstacle to the restoration of peace in the northwest of Africa. They saddled Morocco with the heavy responsibility for the nonimplementation of the OAU resolution. They appealed to all African countries to assume their responsibilities in the face of Morocco's continued aggression against the SDAR people.

Concerning Chad, the two heads of state acknowledged the agreement for simultaneous withdrawal of foreign troops from that country. They held the view that the move marks a decisive stage toward the settlement of that fratricidal conflict which has torn that country apart for 2 decades. They further encouraged the countries concerned to bring to reality their decision to pull out of Chad and urged the Chadian brothers to meet around a negotiations table in order to restore peace and safeguard Chad's unity, thus rewarding the praiseworthy efforts made by the OAU and the People's Republic of Congo, which is hosting a meeting of Chadians in Brazzaville.

On the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state strongly condemned the constitutional deadlock which the South African racist and barbaric regime has just imposed on the international community with the blessing of its Western allies. They reiterated their belief that no peaceful solution can be achieved in that region as long as the black majority has not recovered its rights.

They paid tribute to the 10,000 freedom fighters in South Africa for their sacrifices which make them the symbols of courage and determination, especially those killed recently in Sharpesville and Soweto by the bullets of Pretoria's inhuman and fascist regime. They reiterated their indefectible support for the heroic struggle which the ANC is waging for the triumph of freedom and dignity.

Concerning Namibia, the two heads of state pledged their firm attachment to the strict compliance with and implementation of the pertinent resolution of the United Nations, especially the 1978 UN Resolution 435.

They condemned any attempt to get round that resolution and to link Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. They reaffirmed their total support for SWAPO as the only authentic representative of the Namibian people.

On the international front, the two heads of state expressed their great concern over the extremely serious situation prevailing in the Middle East. They condemned the maneuvers in which both imperialism and Zionism are involved which have led to the expulsion of the Palestinian people from their fatherland and to a series of barbaric acts of aggression, resulting in the military occupation and annexation of vast territories belonging to many Arab countries.

They pledged their support for the courageous struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of their only authentic representative, the PLO. The two heads of state expressed their militant solidarity with the people of Nicaragua and El Salvador, who have taken up arms to fight boldly against the imperialist forces in order to achieve true independence for their countries.

At the end of his visit to Burkina Faso, Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz expressed his deep gratitude to his brother and friend, Comrade President Captain Sankara, to the CNR, and to the government and the people of Burkina for the warm reception and hospitality which he and his delegation enjoyed during their visit.

[Issued] In Ouagadougou on 15 October 1984.

[Signed] for Burkina Faso: Capt Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, president of the republic and head of government;

And for the SDAR; Comrade Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and president of the SDAR

IVORY COAST

CEAO Industry Ministers End Abidjan Meeting

AB151104 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 13-14 Oct 84 p 1

[Excerpt] The six industry ministers of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] member countries ended their meeting on industrial integration yesterday at the Administrative Tower in Abidjan. They recommended the need for deeper study on harmonizing investment codes, with a view to drafting a text that will take into account the community's spirit and the disparities among our states.

They also recommended that feasibility studies for regional projects be pursued in the fertilizer industry, in the manufacturing of agricultural and water supply equipment, in the iron and steel industry, and in the manufacturing of infrastructural equipment for transport and communication.

Economic, Social Council Begins Second Session

AB151105 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 13-14 Oct 84 p 4

[Excerpts] The second ordinary session of the economic and social council opened yesterday morning. The solemn opening ceremony took place under the chairmanship of Auguste Denise, representing the head of state.

In his opening address, Mamadou Coulibaly, president of the council, recalled the political and diplomatic activities of President Houphouet-Boigny and the great contact tour embarked upon in September by party missions.

MALI

Minister Says Drought Persisting, Calls for Aid

AB151033 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The minister of interior, Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga, this morning presided over a meeting with the country's major donor nations and organizations for 1984 in the conference room of the Ministry of Interior.

The meeting, which was to evaluate the effects of drought in the country, took place in the presence of the minister of agriculture, N'fagnanama Kone, and the minister of rural development, Mady Diallo, as well as representatives of FAO, international organizations, and diplomatic missions.

In his opening address, the minister of interior, in his capacity as chairman of the National Committee on Aid to Drought Victims, first took stock of the country's rainfall, agricultural, and water supply situation in the past year, a situation which, he said, the representatives will have the chance to experience during their 1-week tour of the zones which they themselves have identified.

[Begin Maiga recording] As has been the tradition, you will have 1 week to visit and learn of the prevailing situation in the areas which you yourselves have identified. I will, first of all, present a general view of the situation. The 1984-85 farming season was marked by an early rainy season from the end of May to early June. This was followed by a very long period of drought which persisted in the south and southwestern parts of the country through the first 10 days of July. In short, the rainfall was very irregular and inadequate throughout the country. Rain fell throughout most parts of the country at the end of September and early October, but the density differed from region to region. The agricultural situation, therefore, varies with the regions. The season was characterized mainly by planting and replanting, resulting in different levels of vegetation. In the north and west where planting was relatively successful, the crops suffered from long drought periods which affected the growth of maize and sorghum in particular. The drought in some cases led to the withering of plants.

Concerning our water resources, the water levels at the country's main rivers, the Niger, Bani, and Senegal, were the lowest ever recorded. The water levels continued to fall in September. This is particularly disturbing because the highest level recorded this year is even lower than the shortfall of 1983.

The situation is worse than that of last year, which was considered the worst of all drought periods. As such, the evaluation report on the 1984-85 farming season and production estimates put the country's cereal deficit at 441,000 tons. The general situation of livestock breeding appeared to be very critical in the Sahelian areas. The areas most affected by the drought are the First, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Regions.

Ladies and gentlemen, our party, the Democratic Union of Malian People, and the Government of the Republic of Mali have on their part set out to mobilize all efforts within the framework of the national solidarity fund which was set up a few months ago. The secretary general of the party has never relented in his efforts to make the people aware of the situation so that they can henceforth learn to live with this drought. [end recording]

In his conclusion, the minister of interior invited the donor countries and organizations to concentrate on the concept of food security. To this end, he said, cooperation prospects with specialized organizations will center on the policy of food security and on the building of emergency food stocks at strategic points where access is often difficult at certain times of the year.

NIGERIA

FMG Announces 'Minor Cabinet Reshuffle'

AB151818 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] A minor Cabinet reshuffle has been announced by the Federal Military Government. In the new arrangement, the minister of health, Commodore Patrick Koshoni, becomes the new minister of aviation, while the former minister of works and housing, Dr Emmanuuel Nsan, moves to the Ministry of Health. The minister of education, science, and technology, Alhaji Ibra-

him Yarima Abdullahi, becomes the new minister of works and housing, while the minister of transport and aviation, Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim, takes over the Ministry of Education.

Also today, the Federal Government approved the redeployment of 16 permanent secretaries.

The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, directed that the changes should take immediate effect.

He also ordered that the necessary handing over should be completed by Friday.

Papers Comment on SDAR Issue, OAU Summit

AB151055 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Two papers, *THE DAILY TIMES* and the *THE GUARDIAN* focus on next month's summit of the OAU in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The *TIMES* observes that the recent declaration by the SDAR to attend at all costs might affect the holding of the summit. The *TIMES* is however of the opinion that using the SDAR question to disrupt the meeting will be a negative approach to the solution of the Western Saharan problem. The paper points out that parties to the dispute can resolve their disagreement through a common forum to be provided by the November summit. The *TIMES* therefore calls on African leaders to do everything in their power to ensure the successful holding of the meeting.

On its part, *THE GUARDIAN* wants Nigeria to lead the way by recognizing the SDAR. The paper strongly believes that this will be the only logical step to follow the country's recent withdrawal from the Implementation Committee on Western Sahara.

TOGO

SDAR Leader Abdelaziz Arrives, Met By Eyadema

AB152135 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] His Excellency Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR leader and secretary general of the Polisario Front, arrived in Lome in the late afternoon.

The SDAR leader, who is on a friendly and working visit to Togo, was met at Lome Tokoin International Airport by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic.

Ministers Arrive in Lome for Quadripartite Meeting

AB152138 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The Ghanaian minister of foreign affairs, Obed Asamoah, and the Ghanaian minister of the interior, Kofi Djin, arrived this afternoon in Lome. They were met at the Aflao border post by Ayivi Mawuko Ajavon, member of the Central Committee, keeper of the seals, and minister of justice.

The Nigerian delegation also arrived in Lome today. It was met at the airport by Kpotivi Lacle, member of the Political Bureau and minister of the interior.

Meanwhile, the Beninese delegation has already arrived in our capital.

These delegations will join the Togolese delegation in a meeting that will examine issues concerning our four countries.

Conference With Congo, Mozambique Ends

MB150941 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The works of the conference of the Central Bodies for Control and Verification of the Angola, Congo, and Mozambique parties, the MPLA-Labor Party, the Congolese Labor Party, and the Frelimo Party respectively, ended in Luanda this morning with a true agreement of principles.

The participants of the meeting exchanged information on the practical and theoretical experiences accumulated by the three parties on the struggle against actions contrary to Marxism-Leninism, on the strengthening of party unity and discipline, and on the methods to control party work.

The participants exchanged opinions on the current situation in southern Africa, condemned the imperialist maneuvers, which aim at destabilizing the region, and reaffirmed their enduring solidarity with SWAPO and the ANC. In this meeting they praised the efforts made by the Frontline States to promote peace and harmony among the peoples of southern Africa, and rejected the linkage [preceding word in English] policy, which aims at linking the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435 with the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from Angola.

Southern African Labor Commission Begins Talks

MB151420 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Experts of the Southern Africa Labor Commission began talks in Maputo today to discuss problems of migrant labor in the region. The meeting was opened by the state secretary for labor, Aguiar Mazula. Speaking at the opening of the meeting, Mr Mazula said the great concern of the commission is the conditions of miners working in South Africa, especially in the areas of health care, safety measures underground, and insurance.

He noted that the lack of proper safety measures underground make South African mines the most dangerous in the world. As a result, he said, returning or deported workers have a life expectancy of only 5 years after working in the mines for a few contracts. However, Mr Mazula added that the members of the commissions are now more conscious of the seriousness of these problems than they were before the organization was set up.

Mr Mazula went on to say that the Southern African Labor Commission has a better understanding of the difficulties and obstacles that are still to be confronted in its attempt to find effective solutions to the migrant labor problem. He said eventual elimination of the migrant labor system is one condition for the elimination of apartheid. The eight countries taking part at the meeting are Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, and Botswana.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Sassou-Nguesso Message

MB160715 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party, yesterday received in Luanda a personal message from Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the chairman of the Congolese Labor Party [PCT]. The bearer of the message was (Andre Oban-Militou), member of the Central Committee and chairman for control and verification of the PCT, who arrived in Luanda a week ago.

(Andre Militou) participated in the Luanda and Lubango city proceedings of the conference on control and verification for the Angolan, Congolese, and Mozambican parties, which ended the day before yesterday.

ANGOP Lauds Refugees Who Repent, Surrender

MB121100 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 11 Oct 84

[ANGOP commentary: "Coherence of Principles"]

[Text] The news that was amply broadcast last week by all mass media agencies on the return of 20,000 people who had until then sought refuge in the forests of our country's northern provinces, some of whom held posts of military responsibility, has not surprised those who have always believed in the policy of principles of the MPLA-Labor Party at all times of its history.

In fact, when he proclaimed, during a mass rally in 1978 in Cabinda city, clemency for all those who yesterday were misled by forces serving imperialism, and who today are repentant and willing to do some honest self-criticism and actively participate in the tasks of reconstruction of Angola, President Agostinho Neto reiterated the relevance of a political principle that was always the norm in the movement that today is called the Labor Party: to accept fair admission of a mistake by those who err. The benefits of this position, this revolutionary theory, did not begin just today. These benefits were accrued long ago and lend emphasis to recent events due to the high number of compatriots who, in an act of recognized patriotism, were aware of their duty to participate in the national reconstruction.

The citizens now reintegrated have already publicly and freely expressed their sense of self-criticism for having fought their own people for a number of years, thus serving forces alien to the interests and correct development of their country, and they have also expressed the will to fight for a prosperous Angola. The Angolan people, who daily struggle to safeguard the revolutionary gains which were attained after considerable sacrifice, have received them as children of a society that needs effort from all in order to develop. Today they are here, ready to face any living conditions which are, as they publicly attested, more pleasant than those which they experienced in the jungle.

It is in the relatively safe return and subsequent integration into society without any fears that the political importance of this act lies. History thus confirms that the Angolan people, whose hopes are interpreted by their revolutionary vanguard, the MPLA-Labor Party, have never confused issues. The Angolan people have never regarded violence as the best method of correcting all those who err or, in this instance, those who have belonged to counterrevolutionary groups who carry out actions that affected their own lives.

We should therefore understand that all those who lately have been leaving the ranks of the puppet organizations and surrendering to the combatants of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola so that they may find freedom again are in the same situation as many others who await the same opportunity. These are those who, due to various conditions and different situations, were misled by gangsters who, in the past as in the present, serve imperialism and who do not physically feel the effects of this frustrating war which they force a handful of men to carry out.

With this position which, as we have said, was not taken today but rather has always accompanied the clarity of principles of the MPLA-Labor Party since the moment of its historic formation, the Angolan people reiterate that they are willing to receive all those who, even today, continue to be misled by puppet groups installed in the great European capitals, in the payroll of imperialism, who continue to command atrocities be carried out against the unprotected population, and to destroy economic and social objectives, which already form part of the work carried out toward the rebuilding of a new Angola. These commands emanate mainly from Namibia, which is occupied by the racists of South Africa.

To return in order to work honestly is the duty of all Angolans, and our people, who are daily getting politically mature in the tasks of defense and production, know how to correctly interpret the value of this decision.

UNITA Scorned as Tool of Apartheid Policy

MB120837 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 11 Oct 84

[ANGOP commentary: "The Puppet Show"]

[Text] The presence of the chief of Angolan renegades at the (?rowdy) swearing-in ceremony of Pieter Botha as president of the Republic of South Africa has led us to unequivocally draw three basic inferences: 1) Pretoria is not willing to stop its indirect attacks against Angola; 2) Pretoria, in contravention of the Lusaka compromises, is insisting, perhaps to a greater degree, on its support to UNITA; and 3) it has now become evident to the Angolans that the countries that support that band of traitors implicitly recognize both the apartheid regime and its so-called reforms.

The violence that has preceded the swearing-in of Pieter Botha showed the world that the Pretoria rulers have not been able to convince the public of their dubious intention to reform the regime, or create a real climate of peace in the region. Effectively, the elections for the new South African constitution, which has created two chambers, one for Coloreds and another for the Indians, to exist jointly with the one for whites, have only shown that besides the basic issue of the 22 million blacks not being solved, the apartheid regime maintains its repressive nature. The clear proof lies in the six Indian militants who were forced to seek refuge in the British Consulate in Durban, a South African city, thus creating a crisis between the London and Pretoria governments.

It is therefore true that apartheid is the main cause of all political and racial conflicts, and although it is being denied by the present South African leaders, this will undoubtely serve as an example for the eventual successors of Pieter Botha if they truly wish to avoid the errors and the blind intransigence of the present Cabinet. It is indicative that no country in the world, with the exception of Taiwan, has supported such reforms. Even the promoters of the so-called constructive engagement policy have expressed their opposition to the initiatives undertaken by South Africa regarding its largely contested internal policy.

Moreover, in a more global analysis, when the Government of the Peoples Republic of Angola had reached a compromise in Lusaka to end the occupation of its territory, to stop the direct South African aggressions, and cease its support to the UNITA gangs, the international community and the Frontline States in particular asked themselves about the real intentions of Pretoria. Seven months have passed and a real deadlock persists in the diplomatic area, although there is now an atmosphere for negotiations that have been in existence for 3 years.

In terms of the military operations there has only been a change of tactics: South Africa has frozen its direct aggressions against the economic and civil targets in Angola, but it substantially stepped up its support for the puppet bands. Information from by the Pretoria agents themselves refers to an annual aid to the tune of 10 million. It will be recalled that the $1 is equivalent to 30 kwanzas. The clearest and unequivocal proof that Pretoria remains strongly involved in the destabilization of the People's Republic of Angola is in the official reception given to Jonas Savimbi in Johannesburg, and the plans that this ringleader will have concocted with Pik and Pieter Botha.

However, for those who know the history of Angola after independence this is no new occurrence. In effect, since 1975 South Africa has abetted the destabilization of Angola, initially with the pretext of protecting the Ruacana dam, and subsequently with the pretext of destroying the SWAPO bases. Now these arguments are exhausted, Pretoria, in concert with Washington, uses on the one hand the presence of the Cuban internationalists, and on the other, an inadmissible dialogue between the legitimate Angolan Government and the puppet bands.

However, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos was very explicit in his recent tour of Western Europe. There will not be any dialogue with traitors. Some years back, unenlightened observers could understand the skepticism of certain countries concerning the true nature of the conflict in the southern region of the continent, and in Angola in particular. At the present moment, it is more than evident that the facts are very clear.

In the concrete case of Angola, there are no doubts to anyone that UNITA has acted as an extension of the South African Army. Since the International Police for defense of State/Directorate General for Security created UNITA in 1966 and South Africa has used it since 1975 to its own ends, no one can talk with legitimacy about reconciling that band with the Angolan family. In Angola, one can never talk of reconciliation, but only in the reintegration of all those who, because of whatever reason, followed the wrong path. This was the case of Tonta Castro, a former commander in the Angolan National Liberation Front/-Military Committee of the Resistance in Angola, which proves the justness of our viewpoints.

The thousands of compatriots who have voluntarily surrendered to the legitimate authorities of the People's Republic of Angola are freely reintegrating into the Angolan society, but they are (?not) reconciled with our people. We know how to forgive past mistakes, as the late Agostinho Neto said in Cabinda in 1978. For all Angolans the issue is simple: Whoever supports the puppets, supports the apartheid regime; whoever condemns apartheid will necessarily condemn the UNITA puppet band.

KUP Hails UNITA Successes, Cambambe Sabotage

MB151630 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 15 Oct, KUP — UNITA has a strong army that guarantees the implementation of the plans drawn up by the national resistance of Angola. The world asks how UNITA manages to score so many military, political, and diplomatic successes against a number of allied imperialist countries led by the USSR. These countries have placed their puppets in Luanda in the form of the minority and corrupt Luanda regime.

There are many observers who also wonder how UNITA managed the tremendous victory at Cambambe Dam, where the supply of electricity and water to Luanda city, the capital of Angola, was cut off for many days. In the history of revolutions, few political organizations have scored such successes, and it must be further emphasized that Angola is occupied by thousands and thousands of foreign troops, led by that superpower — the USSR.

The answer to these questions lies in the Angolan people's determination to do away with Soviet-Cuban oppression and, fundamentally, in the ability of the leadership of the national resistance to anticipate events. President Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi is the leader who truly represents the will of all the Angola people in their firm desire to struggle for liberty, peace, and happiness.

The cause defended by the Angolan people is a just cause and all the countries and nations of the world should support it. Today, after many victories achieved by the glorious Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, everyone is convinced that Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi enjoys the support and trust of all groups of Angolan people and he indeed deserves to be called a political and military strategist of international repute.

LESOTHO

Prime Minister Receives New UNHCR Representative

MB151158 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, says that the question of refugees is as old as the Basotho nation itself. Receiving the new representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], Mr (Kulude Doherty), Dr Jonathan said, since the Basotho are made up of all sorts of refugees, the Basotho have always had a bias for refugees. In his reply, Mr (Doherty) said it is gratifying to know that Lesotho is one of the few countries which still have the courage to uphold the humanitarian principles which protect refugees. Before coming to Lesotho, Mr (Doherty) represented the UNHCR in Nairobi, Kenya.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel, SDAR's Abdelaziz Meet in Pemba

MB151500 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1100 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] In Pemba, Cabo Delgado Province, President Samora Machel of the People's Republic of Mozambique and President Mohamed Abdelaziz of the SDAR were in full agreement on the prevailing issues in their respective areas, Southern Africa and Western Sahara. Leading high-ranking delegations from their respective countries, the two heads of state held talks in the Mozambican city of Pemba last Tuesday. During their talks, the two sides examined the current situation in each of their areas.

Mohamed Abdelaziz, the secretary general of the Polisario Front and president of the SDAR Higher Council of Revolution, was in Mozambique this week as part of the diplomatic offensive being mounted by the SDAR for the forthcoming OAU summit. The SDAR is the 51st OAU member and has already been recognized by 29 countries. As part of the SDAR diplomatic offensive, President Mohammed Abdelaziz has already visited Ethiopia, Tanzania, Madagascar, and Burundi. He has now left for Botswana after his visit to Mozambique. He is also expected to visit other countries in central and West Africa.

The talks between the Mozambican and Saharan delegations took place in a climate of frank comradeship. During the opening session of the talks, the Mozambican head of state reaffirmed the support of the Mozambican people for the total and unconditional liberation of the SDAR. Samora Machel hailed the successes achieved by the Saharan people, under extremely difficult conditions against the new kind of colonization, which is increasingly raising the morale of the Saharan people under the leadership of the Polisario Front. Speaking during the opening session of the talks, the Mozambican statesman described the meeting as a time for further increasing the relations of fraternity and comraderie and deepening mutual understanding of the prevailing situation in each of the two areas.

On the occasion, President Samora Machel noted that the talks were taking place in a province where Frelimo launched the armed struggle against the Portuguese colonization in Mozambique 20 years ago:

[Begin Machel recording] This is the province where the Mozambican people established liberated zones, forged the people's power, and learned to exercise the hard-won power. It was in this struggle that we learned the deep meaning of liberty, independence, democracy, and peace. We learned that the fundamental objective of our struggle was to achieve peace so that our people could progress and be happy. During the struggle, we learned the immense value of militant solidarity with the just struggle of the oppressed peoples. These values are deep-rooted in all the Mozambican people from the Rovuma River to the Maputo River and today these values constitute their civilization, their culture, and their way of life. That is why it is our duty, Comrade president, to support the just cause of the Sahran people.

When the SDAR was proclaimed on 27 February 1976, we greeted it with profound satisfaction. By recognizing the SDAR, the People's Republic of Mozambique was greeting another victory of Africa in its long journey against colonialism, neocolonialism, and imperialism. When the SDAR was invaded and part of its territory occupied, we vigorously denounced this move and demanded that this action stop. This denunciation was not demagoguery. It was the result of our own experience. Just as in the past, the Mozambican people and the Saharan people continue to be united today to bring about the triumph of the cause of liberty and independence of all peoples in Africa and the world in general.

Comrade president, your visit is a great contribution for the Mozambican people, a great contribution for our revolution, and is a great contribution for our unification and awareness that the enemies of Africa still continue. Your presence in this area, Comrade president, encourages us and heightens our vigilance over the perfidious and divisive imperialist maneuvers to dominate us. This a moment for us to examine together how imperialism operates in each of our areas and how it deals with each of our revolutions.

We would say that your visit here, Comrade president, is an appeal to us to hold very high the banner of revolution, the banner of peace, and the banner of progress. You have also had the opportunity, Comrade president, to see with your own eyes upon your arrival to Pemba the friendship and solidarity of the Mozambican people with the fraternal people of Sahara. That is why, Comrade president, our meeting today is another occasion for us to strengthen further our relations of fraternity and our relations of comraderie, and to deepen the mutual understanding over the situations prevailing in our respective areas.

We are pleased with the presence of the comrades here. You comrades know how to live in the bush and your presence here is cause for emotion. When we see you here, we remember what we ourselves were in the bush — occupying the bush, and the desert, and fighting in difficult conditions in deserts. I do not know how to fight in the desert. I know how to fight in the bush. But you comrades will teach us how to fight in the desert. Accordingly, on behalf of our Frelimo Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and on behalf of Mozambican people, you are welcome and we hope you will make yourselves at home. You are among your brothers and comrades — comrades in struggle. [end recording]

In turn, Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and president of the SDAR Higher Council of Revolution, lauded the support provided by the Frelimo Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and the Mozambican people to the cause of liberation of the Western Sahara.

[Begin Abdelaziz recording in Arabic fading into Portuguese translation] Our visit to the People's Republic of Mozambique, particularly the meetings with Comrade President Samora Machel, are a source of inspiration for us, and reflect deep understanding of the problems affecting our areas and an opportunity to examine our common victories. I personally had the occasion and the privilege to attend the meetings of the fourth Frelimo Party congress. While I was present at the discussions, I was able to note the seriousness with which the Mozambican people discuss their problems.

Now, I have once again come to this source of inspiration so that, through our frank discussions, we may have a better understanding of our difficulties and fully understand our objectives and realities.

From 1964 to 1975, you experienced 11 years of sacrifice and struggle, which culminated in your independence and your firm solidarity with all fighting peoples and support for liberation movements. Through your stands, we note that your revolution exceeds national dimensions and has had an effect throughout the continent of Africa and even at the world level. That is why you should consider it a privilege to have contributed to the progress of the struggle for the liberation of many people of our continent, and to now be at the vanguard of this struggle for liberation. [end recording]

President Mohamed Abdelaziz also hailed the firm positions taken by the Mozambican Government with regard to the situation in southern Africa and the world in general. Accordingly, he said, and we quote: The dimension of your revolution is the reason why you are now the selected target of all reactionary incursions, unquote. The Saharan leader expressed the certainty of the inevitable triumph of the Mozambican people in the new battle for the economic development of the country.

The Mozambican delegation to the talks, led by President Samora Machel, included Army General Alberto Chipande, a member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and Central Committee and the People's Assembly Standing Commission, minister of national defense, and leader of Cabo Delgado Province; Osvaldo Rafael Tazama, a member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and of the People's Assembly Standing Commission; and Julio Carrilho, a member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and minister of construction and water.

The Saharan side, led by Mohamed Abdelaziz, included Hamoudi Ahmed Baba, a member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Saharan National Council; Mohamed Salem Ould Saleck, a member of the Political Bureau and the official

in charge of foreign relations of the Polisario Front; Mohamed Saydati, the secretary general to the SADR presidency; Nema Jumane, health minister; Salem Kaidy, the director of protocol in the office of the president; and Ambassador Ahmed Saleck Kaim, SDAR ambassador accredited to Maputo.

As we have already announced, the Saharan delegation left the city of Pemba on Wednesday afternoon for Botswana, thus continuing the diplomatic offensive which the SDAR is mounting on the eve of the 20th OAU summit.

Veloso Asks 'Bandits' To End Hostilities
MB151212 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Mozambique and South Africa resume talks in Pretoria this week on putting an end to armed banditry in Mozambique. Economic Affairs Minister Jacinto Veloso heads the Mozambican delegation in the discussions which are aimed at implementing the Pretoria declaration of 3 October.

The technical commission established to implement the declaration met for 4 days last week, and General Veloso said in an interview at the weekend that positive steps had been taken toward ending banditry. However, he added that the bandit chiefs were still under strong pressure from those whose interests were in question, and it was up to these forces behind the bandits to put an end to banditry in Mozambique.

Gen Veloso said that the government's position is that there is absolutely nothing to discuss with the armed bandits, the bandit chiefs, or those who control the bandit chiefs. Our objective, he said, is to implement the Pretoria Declaration, particularly the point that refers to ending the violence.

Gen Veloso said military action remained decisive in the struggle against the bandits and the talks in Pretoria were merely intended to speed up the victories being won on the battlefield. Military action must be stepped up, he said, with the civilian population organizing themselves into militia groups to defend themselves while the Armed Forces carry out operations to match the bandit gang. If the Pretoria talks did not lead to the end of banditry in Mozambique, he concluded, there would be no reason to carry on with diplomatic activity, and Mozambique would resolve its problem on its own.

Official Urges Vigilance in Central Maputo Ward
MB151850 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Antonio Chicuamba, the Frelimo Party first secretary and administrator of Urban District No 1 in Maputo, has urged the residents of the central communal war to heighten vigilance in all locations to neutralize possible enemy infiltrations. Antonio Chicuamba made this exhortation when he presided over a weekend meeting to clarify reports on the present phase of talks between the governments of the People's Republic of Mozambique and South Africa.

During the meeting, the people reaffirmed their determination to continue the struggle for the complete elimination of armed banditry in our country. The need to denounce rumors, one of the weapons used by the enemy in our country, was also emphasized by the administrator of Urban District No 1 in Maputo.

Pretoria Declaration Must Have 'Practical Results'
MB150620 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] On 25 September 1984, the People's Republic of Mozambique celebrated the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle of national liberation. The great military parade held in the country's capital was the central ceremony of that date and a show of strength of our ground and air Armed Forces — FPLM. It is a modern army, capable of crushing any nonsense on the part of those who wish to offend us on what we hold as the most sacred things: national independence, sovereignty, and revolution.

The defeat and expulsion of colonialism began in Chai on 25 September 1964. On this day, the FPLM, armed wing of our people, led by Frelimo, opened the grounds of a history of glorious traditions of combativeness, heroism, and generosity in which each page narrates the building of victory.

Even at that time, it had become clear for us that military action in the field of operations was determinant for us to gain national independence, and that the role of diplomacy was to speed up and consolidate the results attained on the battlefield.

The events of 25 June 1975 were the result of this strategy. National independence, the proclamation of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and our revolutionary achievements sprang from the armed struggle of national liberation and the military victories attained by FPLM.

Ian Smith's Rhodesia, which was for a long time linked to Portuguese colonialism and other imperialist interests in this region as well as the embryo of armed banditry in Mozambique, vanished in the just struggle that the Zimbabwean people waged against it in order to free themselves. It rotted and was defeated by the weapons of our Armed Forces in its attempts to attack the Mozambican fatherland.

Once Rhodesia was defeated, armed banditry again became active. South Africa was responsible for this, which left in Mozambique a trail of destruction and hideous crimes: Matola and Ponta d'Ouro. Incursions halted. The enemy was expelled.

Armed banditry was defeated by the FPLM and has no alternative but to surrender to our pardoning. The bankruptcy of armed banditry led to the Nkomati Accord. Peace is the only path that concerns southern Africa. The recent Pretoria talks between official delegations of the People's Republic of Mozambique and the republic of South Africa are a follow-up to the Nkomati Accord.

The chieftains of the armed bandits have recognized President Samora Machel and thus the authority of the Mozambican state. They have accepted the cessation of violence in Mozambique.

Pieter Botha declared that armed activity and the conflict within Mozambique, wherever they come from, must stop immediately and imperatively. South Africa compromised in order to play an active role in the establishment of peace in our country. This compromise must be expressed with practical results at once.

Machel Condemns UK Bomb, Sends Condolences

MB160646 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has expressed in unequivocal terms his repudiation and condemnation of the bomb explosion aimed at British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and senior members of the British Government and Conservative Party. In a message sent to Great Britain's prime minister, President Samora Machel offered sincere condolences to the afflicted families and wishes of quick recovery to those who were wounded.

FRG Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

MB151201 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Hans Gunter Sulimma, the director of the African Department of the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Maputo this morning. The FRG official will meet with Mozambican authorities. Earlier, Hans Gunter Sulimma visited Namibia and South Africa and from Maputo, he is expected to leave for Harare, Lusaka and Luanda.

Maputo-Nelspruit Air Link Discussed With RSA

MB151857 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] An air link may be established soon between Maputo and Nelspruit in South Africa, it was announced in today's edition of *NOTICIAS*. An official in our country's aviation sector has disclosed that contacts between the national enterprise of transport and aviation and the South African air transport enterprise, Metavia, have been held on this subject. *NOTICIAS* received information that the only issue remaining was overflight rights in South Africa. Each enterprise could then begin one flight weekly.

NAMIBIA

Mariental Detainee Released, Others Said Moved

MB151017 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0835 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Windhoek, Oct 15, SAPA — A SWAPO detainee, Miss Amalia Aupindi, has been released from a detention camp at Mariental, according to a spokesman for the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk. He said, however, documents had not yet been signed by Dr van Niekerk for the release of the remainder of the camp's inmates, who are understood to have been moved to a camp in northern SWA/Namibia in preparation for their release later this week.

The release of 26-year-old Miss Aupindi brings to 56 the number of SWAPO detainees set free from Keikanachab Camp near Mariental in the south since May this year, after their capture by armed forces from SWA/Namibia in a raid on SWAPO's Cassinga camp in Angola on May 6, 1978. The rest of the detainees are reported to number about 75, but no official confirmation could be obtained on the figure. They are being held on the instructions of Dr van Niekerk by the SWA Territory Force, who declined to comment.

A legal representative for Miss Aupindi confirmed her release last Thursday and said the other detainees had been shifted to a camp near the eastern border of the Etosha Game Reserve in northern SWA/Namibia. It is understood that family and friends of the captives are being consulted with a view to caring for the detainees after their release. The spokesman said he was waiting for a report from a board of inquiry on the prisoners before a final decision is taken.

In April this year, the South African minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, invoked Section 103 (4) of the Defence Act to stop court proceedings seeking the release of 37 Mariental detainees. The move aroused widespread criticism in legal circles, particularly from the SWA Bar Council, who said it was the first time the legislation had been applied in the territory.

SOUTH AFRICA

U.S., Angolan Talks on Cubans, Namibia Future Noted

MB160627 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 16 Oct 84

[Text] The American State Department says the United States and Angola are conducting serious and progressive talks on the conditions for a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

A State Department spokesman, Mr John Hughes, said in Washington that the door remained open for further progress. He said the United States was encouraged by the reiteration by President dos Santos of Angola that the principle of a withdrawal of Cuban troops was accepted in the context of an overall settlement. Mr Hughes said the American deputy assistant secretary of state, Mr Frank Wisner, was in Luanda for the continuation of talks on conditions under which a Cuban troop withdrawal could take place.

President dos Santos said earlier in an interview with the *WASHINGTON POST* that Angola was negotiating with the United States in an attempt to overcome the problems of a stalemate on the future of South-West Africa and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

Our Washington representative says the *POST* reported that more talks will take place soon as part of a regional settlement plan in southern Africa dealing with the two questions. Our

representative reports that Angola accepts that principle that the Cubans have to leave the country but that this cannot happen while South Africa is occupying a part of Angola.

Pik Botha Denies Obligation To Withdraw From Angola

MB151431 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] South Africa is under no obligation to order the final withdrawal of its troops from southern Angola as long as Angola is incapable of meeting the requirements of the Lusaka Agreement that it control SWAPO. This is the reaction of the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, to reports in the foreign media that the Angolan head of state, President Santos, had accused South Africa of refusing to withdraw its troops.

Our Pretoria news office reports that Mr Botha said on inquiry that if President Santos had been correctly quoted, then it appeared that he was not fully informed about the current situation surrounding the joint monitoring commission.

Mr Botha said the commission was aware of the reasons why South Africa had not yet withdrawn its troops from Angola. The Angola authorities were not yet in a position to ensure the withdrawal of SWAPO terrorists from the area concerned as required by the Lusaka Agreement, in spite of various attempts by South Africa to help Angola in this regard.

British MP Comments on Botha; Visits Prison

Botha Remarks Termed 'Absurd'

MB151040 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1020 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Oct 15, SAPA — British Labor MP Mr Donald Anderson said today that it was "absurd and extremely worrying" that Mr Pik Botha, the minister of foreign affairs, had compared the UDF with the IRA. He was replying to a public challenge issued by Mr Botha to answer two "elementary questions":

— Why did the previous Labor Party government in Britain maintain the same sort of law as the Internal Security Act in dealing with the IRA?

— Which black-ruled African country would have allowed him to visit detainees and make condemnatory remarks about its government?

Mr Anderjon replied: firstly, the IRA is a terrorist organisation. By contrast, those (UDF people) swept up by the security authorities as detainees in South Africa did no more than urge a non-violent boycott to elections. Therefore, there can be no serious comparison between the IRA and the United Democratic Front." [quotation marks as received].

He added that there had been no detentions without trial in the UK since 1975. "The laws have lapsed despite constant outrages by the IRA. Britain has still not yielded to the obvious temptation to abandon traditional safeguards. It is not only absurd but extremely worrying that Mr Botha seeks to claim that there is any real comparison which can objectively be made between the IRA, a terrorist organisation, and the UDF, which urges citizens to peacefully boycott an election".

Answering the second question posed by the minister, he said: "I would need adequate notice to prepare a list of which black countries would allow visits to detainees — but I imagine Zimbabwe might be willing, as one example."

"Anyway, I always thought that Pretoria considered its system superior to the systems run by neighboring countries."

Mr Anderson, who visited the three refugees in the British consulate in Durban last night, was preparing to travel to Maritzburg later today to visit the detainees held there.

Anderson Visits Detainees in Prison

MB151617 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The British opposition spokesman for southern Africa, Mr Donald Anderson, met the three Natal Indian Congress members for about 75 minutes this afternoon. They are being held at the new Fort Napier Prison in Pietermaritzburg. Our Durban staff reports that Mr Anderson said he was pleased that he was meeting a wide range of people in South Africa to get a reflection of the opinion in the country. He said he would meet members of the Progressive Federal Party later today.

The three men being held in Pietermaritzburg are Mr M. Ramgobin, Mr M.J. Naidoo, and Mr G. Sewpersadh. They were taken into custody last week when they left the British consulate in Durban, which they had occupied for 2 weeks.

Comment on Anderson Visit

MB151800 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Station commentary: "The Donald Anderson Visit"]

[Text] The visit to South Africa by the British Labor Party's spokesman on southern African affairs, Mr Donald Anderson, appears to have achieved its objective. It has breathed some life into the Durban Consulate affair, which was threatening to become excruciatingly boring.

Mr Anderson arrived at his first news conference at Jan Smuts Airport armed with a handful of letters which the Labor Party leader, Neil Kinnock, and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had written to each other. What they proved beyond doubt was that the British Government, by refusing to arrange for the expulsion of the fugitives in the consulate, are willfully and purposefully obstructing the due processes of law in South Africa. Mr Kinnock told Mrs Thatcher that if the fugitives were not given assistance by the British Government, they would be rearrested and detained. Mrs Thatcher reassured Mr Kinnock that the fugitives would not be forced to leave the consulate.

Another feature of the Anderson visit is the way the British member of Parliament has placed himself and his program at the disposal of the United Democratic Front, UDF. UDF representatives met him at the airport when he arrived, and he remains in UDF hands until he leaves on Wednesday night. Mr Anderson's program has been carefully designed for maximum publicity and controversy.

He ignored strong objections from the South African Government and visited the three fugitives in the British Consulate in Durban. His program includes a multitude of discussions with detainees, and what he called families and lawyers of people who have suffered in terms of South Africa's security legislation. In addition, he is to visit several black townships — closely escorted by members of the UDF, who hope to enhance the front's reputation in this way.

Mr Anderson is adamant that he was sent to South Africa by his party's leader to establish the facts. His close association with the UDF, his statement of solidarity with all detainees and the consulate fugitives before having established a single fact, not only discredits him as an impartial fact-finder, but raises the question whether it was not the UDF who initiated the idea of Mr Anderson's visit to South Africa.

Mr Anderson's concern about detainees is possibly understandable but, as pointed out by Mr Pik Botha, the Labor Party, when in power, had the same sort of security legislation with regard to the IRA. Also, we did not notice Mr Anderson jumping up and down in Zimbabwe when former Prime Minister Abel Muzorewa was detained without trial for a protracted period by the Mugabe Government.

Finally, Mr Anderson's criticism of South African security legislation has come at a most inopportune moment in time. The bomb explosion in Britain has demonstrated in dramatic fashion that each country must work out its own security legislation to foil the activities of radical elements.

International Law Backs RSA

MB120848 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Station commentary: "RSA and International Law"]

[Text] South Africa has always held proper legal practice in high esteem. Despite questionable treatment it has received from international bodies, it has always preferred the straight and narrow path. With its handling of the protracted British Consulate affair in Durban, the question has arisen whether South Africa has not sacrificed this proud record.

What does an assessment of the legality of the respective actions of Britain and South Africa reveal? The first aspect of the dispute concerns the fact that Britain has provided sanctuary for fugitives from the law. The Vienna Convention of 1964, of which Britain is a signatory, as well as customary law, make no provision for protection of fugitives from the law on diplomatic premises, be they embassies or consulates.

In the case of embassies, it is stipulated that it is the duty of the ambassador to hand over fugitives to the authorities of the host country at the doors of the embassy. Regarding consulates, international law goes even further. There is nothing to prevent authorities of the host country arresting fugitives on the premises, provided they do not violate the specific immunity of consular staff.

What makes the British action untenable is the fact that Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher specifically stated in parliament that: It would not be right for us to intervene in the legal processes of another country, whether or not we agree with them. Britain's continued refusal to evict the three remaining fugitives, therefore, amounts not only to a breach of its obligations to the Vienna Convention, but also a mockery of Mrs Thatcher's view on the matter. Mrs Thatcher is clearly under pressure not to associate herself with South Africa's security legislation. This is understandable. But then, Britain cannot claim to be acting with absolute rectitude.

The second, and perhaps most controversial, aspect is South Africa's refusal, in reprisal for the British attitude, to send four of its nationals suspected of breaking British law back to Britain. The British view is that this action by the republic is a flagrant violation of a solemn undertaking, and that it has no connection with the British action in Durban.

But also, in this case, it is South Africa and not Britain which is correctly within the law. In his book, "Modern Introduction to International Law," Prof (Michael Aikhurst) of the University of Keel, says the following of this controversial issue: Reprisals are acts which would normally be illegal, but which are rendered legal by a prior illegal act committed by the other state. Clearly, there can be no justification here for the claim that there should be a link or connection between the two disputes.

The legal principle of reprisal is the link. And it is clearly at the discretion of the offended country to decide what reprisal action to take. The only possible difference of opinion which might still exist concerns the proportionality of South Africa's respisal.

The principle of reprisal determines that such a step should bear relation to the illegality of the original action taken — in this case, by Britain. But it is a relative issue, on which there can be varied opinions. When it is considered how much damage South Africa has suffered, as a result of an international propaganda campaign in which Britain has become directly or indirectly involved, it is open to question whether South Africa's reprisal action was suitably severe. That South Africa has again scrupulously adhered to international law, there can be no doubt, even in Britain.

Slabbert Comments On Pik Botha Statement

MB151355 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, has reacted to the statement by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, that Dr Slabbert had shown a

colonial attitude in criticizing the refusal by South Africa to return the four men to Britain to stand trial on charges of illegal arms trading.

Dr Slabbert said that long before the onset and demise of colonialism, it had been accepted as the cornerstone of Christian moral philosophy that two wrongs did not make a right, and that it was dishonorable to deliberately break one's word. He said it was disturbing that the intelligence of the minister seemed to desert him when confronted with this fact.

Renamo To Continue Peace Talks With Mozambique
MB151600 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1400 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Mozambique National Resistance Movement, Renamo, Dr Evo Fernandes, says the Negotiations between Renamo and the Mozambican Government in Pretoria will continue. Dr Fernandes told our correspondent in Lisbon that the commission established by South Africa, Mozambique, and Renamo was the basis for dialogue, and Renamo would continue to work for peace and a final settlement in Mozambique.

Dr Fernandes added that Renamo had nothing to do with the Nkomati Accord, which had been an agreement between South Africa and the Mozambican Government. He said Renamo and the Mozambican Government were now trying to achieve an internal settlement, and it was also important that Renamo and the government were talking to one another, and not fighting.

Botha Shocked by UK Bombing; Sympathy to Thatcher
MB121055 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1046 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 12, SAPA — The South African state president, Mr P.W. Botha, has sent a telegram to the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, expressing his "shock and outrage" at news of the Brighton Hotel explosion last night in which two people were killed and more than 20 injured.

In the text of his message, released in Pretoria by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr Botha said: "It was with shock and a sense of outrage that I heard of the explosion which occurred at the grand gotel in Brighton last night. I am distressed to learn that there have been fatalities and of the injuries sustained by guests at the hotel, including the Right Hon Norman Tebbit and Mrs Tebbit. Please accept, Prime Minister, my sympathy at the deaths which have occurred and my sincere wish that those who were injured may soon recover fully."

Talks on Lesotho Water Project Resume in Maseru
MB151945 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Representatives of the governments of Lesotho and South Africa, as well as the technicians involved in the Lesotho Highlands Water Project, met in Maseru today to continue discussions on the feasibility of the scheme. The South African delegation was led by the head of the directorate of water affairs, Department of Environment Affairs, Mr (T.T.C. van Rubrik). The meeting was the first in 2 months, following the deterioration of relations between South Africa and Lesotho.

Media Council Urges Balanced SABC Coverage
MB151940 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1733 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Johannesburg, Oct 15, SAPA — The SABC has no justification for excluding from its television and radio newscasts controversial material of common concern that vitally affects the interests of all the people of South Africa, a special committee of the SA Media Council said in a statement in Cape Town today.

The committee, which deals with the free flow of news, made the statement after investigating a speech to the Cape Town Press Club on August 24 by the director general of the SABC, Mr Riaan Eksteen. Concern about the speech had been expressed by Dr Richard van der Ross, rector of the University of the Western Cape, who is a member of the media council. Dr Van der Ross said Mr Eksteen's remarks implied the SABC would refrain from publishing news it preferred the public not to hear. The committee had considered the full text of Mr Eksteen's speech, the statement said.

The media council committee said in its comment: "In the view of the committee, the corporation is not justified in excluding from its broadcasts and television newscasts controversy about matters of common concern to, and that vitally affect the interests of, all the people of South Africa. The principles Mr Eksteen has stated should be applied so that the public is informed of — to mention but a single example — the standpoint of those who oppose the new political dispensation and who called for a boycott of the recent Colored and Indian elections.

"Mr Eksteen said the corporation would not reflect the standpoint of those who had opted out of what he called 'consensus politics.' It is on the contrary the view of the committee that the members of the public have a right to be conscientiously informed of all relevant facts relating to the political debate, so as to enable them to arrive at their own conclusions in regard to such matters."

The media council committee said its comments had to be viewed in the light that the SABC is the sole electronic medium in South Africa, was constituted under statute and its operations were financed from public funds. It was a necessary concomitant of this unique status that the corporation had an urgent responsibility to present to its viewers and listeners a fair and balanced factual picture of matters of public importance affecting their well-being.

"Mr Eksteen rightly points out, relying on the views of Abraham Lincoln, that, '...he who moulds public opinion goes deeper than he who enacts statutes and pronounces decisions.'" The committee also referes to a quote by Mr Eksteen from the report of the United States Commission on Freedom of the Press that "...the media are the most powerful single influence in the shaping of culture and opinion...."

It was precisely for these reasons, the media council committee said, that a body with the persuasive powers of the SABC should refrain from utilizing its authority to propagate in regard to matters of public importance a partial point of view — however laudable it might be thought to be — for the reason that the "corporation in its wisdom thought it to be the proper view to take. Mr Eksteen correctly remarked in the course of his speech that the corporation bears a responsibility in its presentation of news to be fair, balanced and accurate and that its news coverage should reflect all the elements in political debate."

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister Says More ANC Talks Planned

MB151032 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 15 Oct 84 p 1,16

[Text] Swaziland and the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) may hold another indaba [meeting] at an undisclosed venue soon. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, disclosed at the weekend that he had received a diplomatic note from the ANC headquarters in Lusaka asking for another meeting to sort out various issues of bilateral interests, to normalise relations between the kingdom and the ANC.

Mr Mnisi said the purpose of the proposed meeting would be to try and settle various points which had been missed in previous meetings. Asked by our reporter when the meeting was likely to be held, Mr Mnisi said he would not know until he discussed the issue with the elders of the nation.

Mr Mnisi was speaking at a press conference at Matsapa Airport on his arrival from the United Nations General Assembly in New York. He stated that on his arrival in New York, the ANC representatives in the UN received the Swaziland delegation enthusiastically and with a brotherly spirit. "He received me as one of the brothers from the region," Mr Mnisi said.

Mr Mnisi said the ANC representative was sympathetic with the problems Swaziland was facing in the region. He said the diplomat regarded what had happened between the kingdom and the ANC as an unfortunate incident. However, Mr Mnisi said he had reaffirmed at the UN General Assembly that Swaziland would not allow itself to be used as a springboard for military forays into neighbouring states.

He also reaffirmed Swaziland's stand in regard to refugees. He said this country, as a UN member and signatory to the Geneva Convention, was prepared and would continue to abide by its protocol, namely to provide refuge for genuine refugees. He said the Swaziland stand was frank and dealt with realities rather than making ideological sabre rattlings.

Mr Mnisi addressed a full house of the UN General Assembly on Thursday last week. He also addressed the Group of 77, comprising ministers of foreign affairs and ambassadors, and addressed ministers of the non-aligned countries. Mr Mnisi said he was also very pleased by the appointment of Mr Paul Lusaka of Zambia as chairman of the of the General Assembly this year.

ZAMBIA

Chad Envoy Arrives With Message on Rebel Talks

MB151840 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] A special envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre has arrived in the country to deliver a special message to His Excellency President Kaunda. Speaking in Lusaka on arrival, the envoy, Information Minister Soumaila Mahmat, said Chad was ready for reconciliation talks with the rebel faction of former President Goukouni Oueddei. Such talks, at an undisclosed date, would be held in Brazzaville, Congo.

The Chadian minister, who has already been to Angola and [word indistinct] Zimbabwe and Mozambique to deliver similar messages, is in the region on an apparent mission to drum up support for the proposed talks.

Recently France and Libya concluded an agreement under which French and Libyan troops, which backed opposing sides in the conflict, would gradually be withdrawn from the country. Chad and Western Sahara are the two issues that almost led to [word indistinct] of the OAU. This led President Kaunda to call for an honest approach to these problems by the OAU, and warned that no cosmetic solution would end the divisive tendencies, which have hitherto bedeviled African unity.

ZIMBABWE

Matebeleland Commander Notes Dissidence Contained

MB151830 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] The outgoing commander of the 5th Brigade, Brigadier Denis (Chinenge), says the Security Forces have successfully contained the dissident problems in Matebeleland. Speaking at a farewell party held for him by the Brigade's Army officers last week, Brig (Chinenge) said Matebeleland Province's development programs are now able to proceed in an atmosphere of peace and order. He commended the local [word indistinct] for their cooperation with the security forces in their task to restore peace to the region. Brig (Chinenge) will now command the (?6th) Brigade.

ZAPU Selects New Party Leaders, Ends Congress

MB151134 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0829 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Text] Harare, Oct 15, SAPA — Dr Joshua Nkomo's opposition ZAPU party ended its congress in Harare yesterday by appointing a Central Committee and Executive Council to prepare for elections in Zimbabwe next year. Dr Nkomo was elected head of a five-member supreme controlling body, the president-in-council.

Soon after the congress — the party's first since 1975 — Dr Nkomo said he was confident that ZAPU would win the elections

and announced that the party would immediately begin preparations to govern Zimbabwe. "Our policy must be thoroughly worked out so that when we win the elections there will be no sitting down and scratching of heads. The blueprint must be there in full," Dr Nkomo said.

The congress elected a 100-member Central Committee and 15-member National Executive Council, five of whom will form the supreme controlling body, president-in-council. They are: Dr Nkomo; the vice-president, Mr Joseph Msika (formerly the party's secretary-general); the secretary-general, Mr Cephas Msipa (formerly the party's secretary for education also the current minister of state in the deputy prime minister's office for water resources and development); the national chairman, Mr William Kona (formerly the deputy national chairman); and the national treasurer, Mr Kenneth Mano (a former member of the Central Committee).

Mr Vote Moyo, Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, and Mr Lookout Masuku were elected to ZAPU's Central Committee in absentia. The three are in detention.

Radio Truth Hails ZAPU Victory in Bulawayo Election
MB140942 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Station Commentary]

[Text] This brings us to the recent elections for the Bulawayo City Council. Our listeners who would be aware that all the seats in the western suburb were won by ZAPU candidates with resounding majorities. ZAPU candidates took 83 percent of the votes against 15.8 percent for ZANU-PF. These results followed hot on the heels of the elections in the low density suburbs where eight white independents whitewashed their ZANU-PF nominated and supported opponents.

There are certain conclusions to be drawn from these two events, which must have aroused a good deal of soul-searching amongst members of the Politburo. The ZAPU success will provide considerable encouragement for the party, only months before the scheduled general parliamentary elections. It would be a moral booster to the delegates attending the ZAPU national congress.

Through various forms of intimidation, ZANU-PF claimed that they had made considerable headway and gained significant ground in Matabeleland, so much so that the prime minister predicted a ZANU-PF victory in all the ZAPU constituencies in the forthcoming general election. Right now they sound a trifle boastful, unless the registration exercise and the actual polling process are rigged. It is clear that the voters in Bulawayo refused to be intimidated, despite the harassing tactics employed by ZANU-PF agents.

It is equally apparent that ZAPU has by no means disintegrated as a political party and is still a force to be reckoned with. These facts allied to the vastly increased support for other minority parties across the country indicate that ZANU-PF popularity and influence are definitely on wane. The people are becoming disillusioned with the ruling party and its policy. There is growing opposition to the hollow doctrine of scientific socialism and most assuredly to the imposition of a 1-party state.

We hope that all the present minority parties will pool their talents and resources and fight the election on a common platform. They should stand for the creation of a government of national unity dedicated to the principles of democracy and the spirit of free enterprise. Such a force could guarantee genuine peace, real stability, and true freedom. We congratulate the voters of Bulawayo for their wisdom and courage. It is to be hoped that this inspires the voters throughout Zimbabwe to follow their lead next March.